


Wabash Plain Dealer

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THURSDAY,
MARCH 5, 2020

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Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.

Tomorrow's
weather **38** | **26** 



**Pulse
of Wabash**

Wabash Plain Dealer's new website now available

Check out our new website at www.wabashplaindealer.com and let us know what you think. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact web-support@wabashplaindealer.com with any questions. Thank you!

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

Peace studies expert delves into 'Harry Potter,' 'The Hunger Games' in Manchester speech

Siobhán McEvoy-Levy will speak about "Entertaining Peace in Youth Cultures: From Harry Potter to The Hunger Games" at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 5 at the upper level of the Jo Young Switzer Center at the North Manchester campus of Manchester University. It is free and open to the public.

Create glass-on-glass framed mosaic image inspired by nature

The multi-day classes instructed by local stained glass artist Katy Gray will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, March 5; Wednesday, March 11; Friday, March 13; Monday, March 16; and Tuesday, March 17, at Salamonie Interpretive and Nature Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Participants should plan to attend each meeting. The cost is \$60 per person. Each participant will choose one: either a bee, red-tailed hawk or box turtle for their project. All materials will be supplied. Call 260-468-2127 for registration or questions.

MU Theatre Society offers variety show

The Manchester University Theatre Society is

See **PULSE**, page A3

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MCS receives \$46K IDOE Digital Learning and Community Advisory Grant

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) announced recipients of the 2020 Digital Learning-Community Advisory Grant on Thursday, Feb. 27, according to Adam Baker, press secretary.

In total, 52 districts were awarded nearly \$2.5 million in funding, with grants ranging from \$19,000 to \$56,000.

Among the district award-

ed was Manchester Community Schools (MCS), which was awarded \$46,250.

"We are continuously searching for additional financial support to enhance curriculum and instruction advancements for our students. We are very excited to have received this grant," stated Teresa Gremaux, MCS superintendent, in response to a Plain Dealer request Wednesday.

For 2020, grants were awarded to districts focused on building digital initiatives

around the purposeful and strategic integration of technology into instruction.

"With a continued spotlight on enhanced technology integration, IDOE expanded the digital learning grant to include a focus on building community partnerships. Eligible partnership opportunities also provided matching grants by way of monetary funding or in-kind services. Along with the expanded focus, 2020 Digital Learning-Community Advisory Grants center around con-

necting academic concepts to real-life applications, both in the classroom and abroad.

By doing so, schools can maximize relevancy and engagement, thus transforming K-12 education for students. This year's grants requested schools further develop technology integration capacity through implementing transformational initiatives in one of three areas – Instruction and Learning, Leadership and Development, or College and Career Ready," stated Baker.

Other districts which received grants, besides MCS, include:

■ Barr-Reeve Community Schools, \$50,000.

■ Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation, \$50,000.

■ Brownstown Central Community School Corporation, \$50,000.

■ Carmel Clay Schools, \$50,000.

■ DeKalb County Central United Schools, \$49,927.05

See **GRANT**, page A2

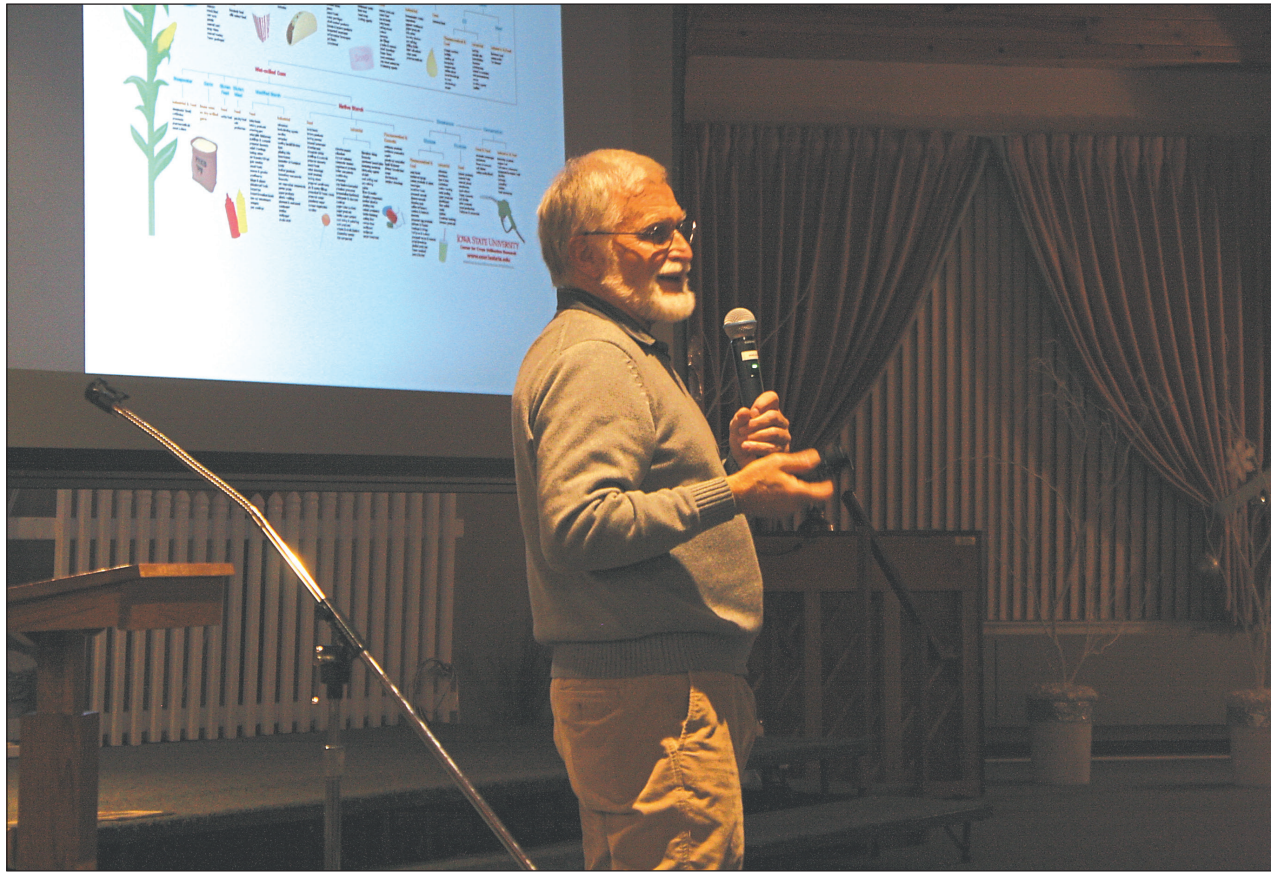


Photo by Rob Burgess / Plain Dealer

During a presentation earlier this month at Timbercrest Senior Living sponsored by the North Manchester Historical Society, John Hartsough discussed the changes which had occurred during four generations of farming on the same plot of land.

One farm shows 120 years of agricultural history

John Hartsough's family has been working the same piece of land for generations

By **ROB BURGESS**
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

John Hartsough can trace a large swath of the modern agricultural history of the state and country through his own family's 120-year-old farm just south of North Manchester.

During a presentation last month at Timbercrest Senior Living sponsored by the North Manchester Historical Society, Hartsough discussed the changes which had occurred during four generations of farming on the same plot of land.

Hartsough graduated from Manchester High School in 1965 and continued his formal education at Manchester College and Purdue Univer-

sity. While in college taking veterinarian classes, Hartsough decided to specialize in dairy medicine. Hartsough began raising dairy replacement heifers when a new dairy south of Wabash created a market for them. Around this time is when he decided to take over his father's farm, partially because they needed someone who had a veterinarian background.

"It's fun to think about how things used to be and how they've changed," he said. "And my, how they've changed."

Origins

Indiana was still part of the Northwest Territory in 1800

See **HISTORY**, page A6

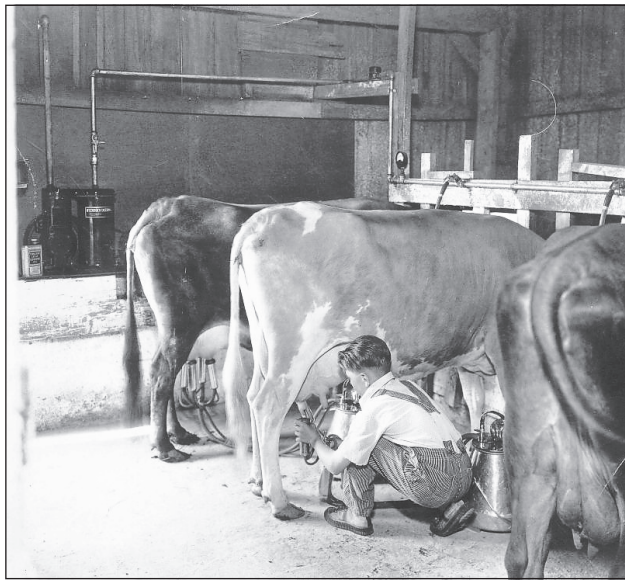


Photo provided

John Hartsough's father milks cows using an electrically-driven vacuum pump by International Harvester in this photo from 1932.

Event set for Wednesday, March 11 at Sweetwater Sound in Fort Wayne

STAFF REPORT

The entrepreneurial spirit is thriving in Wabash County schools, as local high school students dominate the lineup for 2020 Innovate WithIN Regional Competition for Region 8, which covers the counties in northeast Indiana, according to a press release.

This annual competition is hosted throughout the state by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, the Indiana Department of Education, and Ball State University. Innovate WithIN is open to all Indiana high school students grades 9 through 12 who register as

an individual or as a group of up to three students. Participants have the opportunity to win up to \$100,000 in prizes as part of the competition.

The Innovate WithIN Regional Pitch Competition for Region 8 will take place Wednesday, March 11 at Sweetwater Sound in Fort Wayne.

The first-place winner of the regional competition will receive a cash prize and will earn a spot in the Innovate WithIN State Competition on Wednesday, April 8. The second-place business will be entered into a "wild card" drawing where the runners-up from every region will compete for votes. The

team with the highest number of votes will also receive a spot in the state competition.

As part of the Innovate WithIN competition, student entrepreneurs must come up with a new business idea, whether real or theoretical and formulate an executive summary, develop a business plan and ultimately pitch their idea to a "Shark Tank-style" panel of local professionals. Students will be evaluated on their pitches and will also receive feedback from the experienced panel of judges.

Per the Innovate WithIN official website, Region 8's competition will see 10 busi-

nesses vying for a spot at the state competition. Seven of the 10 businesses at the competition will be presented by Wabash County students.

The businesses that Wabash County students intend to pitch at regionals are:

■ Bizzy Bees, LLC – Landon Topliff and Alex Winer, Southwood High School

■ Retractable Show Stick – Riley Shaneberger, Manchester High School

■ iPlanDates – Sierra Stout and James Kelley, Southwood High School

■ Fix 'em Up Phones – Gavin Whitaker, Manchester High School

■ WHS Energy – David

Cash Carmichael, Grant Warmuth and Kedrick Judy, Wabash High

School

■ Millie&Mabel – Lillian Herrmann, Manchester High School

■ Katelyn's Vinyl Designs – Katelyn Hall and Micah Metzger, Heartland Career Center

"Wabash County partners work together to foster an entrepreneurial environment for our local students so that these young adults may learn to think differently and gain confidence in the business planning process," stated

See **COMPETITION**, page A2

Sanders refocusing his campaign after Biden’s super Tuesday

By STEVE PEOPLES, WILL WEISSERT and BILL BARROW
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — His front-runner status slipping, Bernie Sanders refocused his Democratic presidential campaign on surging rival Joe Biden on Wednesday as the Vermont senator’s allies grappled with the fallout from a Super Tuesday stumble that raised internal concerns about the direction of his White House bid.

Sanders targeted Biden’s record on trade, Social Security and fundraising just hours after billionaire Mike Bloomberg suspended his campaign and Elizabeth Warren confirmed she was privately reassessing her future in the race. The dramatic shifts signaled that the Democrats’ once-crowded nomination fight had effectively come down to a two-man race for the right to face President Donald Trump in November.

Sanders declared himself “neck and neck” with Biden as he faced reporters in his home state, Vermont, one of just four states he captured on the most consequential day of voting in the party’s 2020 primary season. Biden won 10 states, assembling victories that transcended geography, race and class.

“What this campaign, I think, is increasingly about is, Which side are you on?” Sanders said.

The progressive candidate lobbied familiar attacks against the former vice president’s record but ignored supporters’ calls to be more aggressive and insisted his campaign would avoid any “Trump-type effort” that included personal criticism.

“I like Joe. I think he’s a

decent human being,” Sanders said. “Joe and I have a very different vision for the future of this country.”

Biden told reporters he would unify the country and, without naming Sanders, knocked the senator’s frequent contention that he is beholden to an elite party establishment.

“The establishment are all those hard-working people” who voted on Tuesday, Biden told reporters in West Hollywood, California.

Elected officials and leading donors rallied around Biden after his Super Tuesday romp. Top Democrats have long been skeptical of the 77-year-old lifelong politician’s political strength but raced to unite behind him to blunt Sanders’ rise.

After suspending his campaign, Bloomberg became the fourth failed Democratic presidential contender this week to endorse Biden. Like the growing chorus of Democratic officials, Bloomberg called Biden the best chance to defeat Trump in the general election.

Warren’s future was uncertain.

Sanders confirmed that he spoke to his progressive ally earlier in the day, though it was unclear whether she would endorse him – or anyone else – should she leave the race. Warren didn’t win a single state on Super Tuesday and finished in third place in her home state of Massachusetts.

A resurgent Biden, meanwhile, was poised to finish Super Tuesday with more delegates than Sanders – a stunning shift. Sanders’ team had hoped he would finish the night more than 100 delegates ahead of his next closest competitor. He’ll likely finish dozens of

delegates behind once all the votes are counted.

Biden’s allies sought to quickly capitalize on his success and take on Sanders. Biden campaign co-chairman, Rep. Cedric Richmond, blasted Sanders for suggesting that the Democratic establishment was colluding against him. Richmond said Biden is earning his votes.

“I just did not know that African Americans in the South were considered part of the establishment,” the Louisiana Democrat said, noting that Biden’s overwhelming support among black voters gave him wide delegate gains in Alabama, North Carolina and Virginia, among other states.

The Sanders campaign announced it would begin airing three new campaign ads across states holding the next series of primary contests on March 10 and March 17: Arizona, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio and Washington state.

One new ad features archived footage of former President Barack Obama praising Sanders. It’s a not-so-subtle attempt by the Vermont senator to undercut Biden’s frequently spotlighting his closeness to Obama.

Despite the aggressive ad buy, there was new evidence of internal frustration with Sanders’ strategy, which some believe has not been tough enough in courting high-profile endorsements or attacking Biden.

Sanders prefers to focus his criticism on the former vice president’s record on key issues, declining to lean into more divisive attacks that will almost certainly come up in a prospective general election match-up against Trump.

GRANT

From page A1

- Dugger Union Community School Corporation, \$49,624.87.
- East Allen County Schools, \$50,000.
- East Gibson School Corporation, \$49,105.94.
- East Washington School Corporation, \$49,085.42.
- Eastbrook Community Schools, \$50,000.
- Eminence Community School Corporation, \$33,300.
- Franklin Township Schools, \$50,000.
- Geist Montessori Academy, \$49,982.84.
- Greensburg Community School Corporation, \$49,987.
- Hanover Community School Corporation, \$50,000.
- Irvington Community Schools, \$50,000.
- Jennings County School Corporation, \$50,000.
- Lanesville Community Schools, \$50,000.
- Linton-Stockton School Corporation, \$50,000.
- Maconaquah School Corporation, \$50,000.
- Madison-Grant United Schools, \$50,000.

- Matchbook Learning Schools of Indiana, \$50,000.
- Medora Community School Corporation, \$36,623.50.
- Merrillville Community School Corporation, \$49,910.
- Milan Community School Corporation, \$50,000.
- Mississinewa Community Schools, \$50,000.
- MSD of Lawrence Township, \$49,875.
- MSD of Warren Township, \$50,000.
- MSD Southwest Allen County Schools, \$50,000.
- Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation, \$50,000.
- New Albany Floyd County Schools, \$49,837.
- North Harrison Community Schools, \$43,549.52.
- North Montgomery Community School Corporation, \$19,701.84.
- Oregon-Davis School Corporation, \$40,600.
- Orleans Community Schools, \$41,990.
- Renaissance Academy, \$50,000.
- Rossville Consolidated School District, \$32,831.70.
- South Central Community School Corporation, \$45,090.

- South Dearborn Community School Corporation, \$40,650.
 - South Madison Community School Corporation, \$50,000.
 - South Ripley Community School Corporation, \$49,983.66.
 - South Spencer County School Corporation, \$50,000.
 - South Vermillion Community School Corporation, \$49,976.
 - Switzerland County School Corporation, \$55,946.90.
 - Tippecanoe Valley School Corporation \$50,000.
 - Triton School Corporation \$50,000.
 - Union County/College Corner Joint School District, \$50,000.
 - Vigo County School Corporation, \$50,000.
 - Vincennes Community School Corporation, \$50,000.
 - White River Valley School District, \$50,000.
 - Yorktown Community Schools \$50,000.
- Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

COMPETITION

From page A1

Tenille Zartman, vice president of Grow Wabash County. “The ultimate goal is that some of these kids will find a passion in cultivating businesses, especially here in Wabash County, which in-turn would stimulate our local economy. We are very proud that these seven teams have advanced to Innovate WithIN’s regional

competition.”

This is Wabash County’s second year of involvement in the Innovate WithIN competition, thanks in part to the concerted efforts of local educators and Grow Wabash County to develop and implement an entrepreneurship curriculum that provides support for students looking to compete. The Indiana Economic Development Corporation provided Grow

Wabash County with grant funding to support these entrepreneurial-minded programs.

The steering committee members that have helped support high school entrepreneurship endeavors include Chelsea Boulrisse, Jason Callahan, Brian Evans, Keith Gillenwater, Kari Johnson, Tyler Karst, Mike Keaffaber, Shelly Leifer, Ryan Sincroft and Tenille Zartman.

for residents of Wabash and surrounding counties. We look forward to continuing the tradition,” stated Kryston Henderson, market master for the 2020 Season.

Downtown Wabash Farmers Market is a program of Wabash Marketplace.

If you are interested in becoming a vendor or volunteering at the event, call 260-563-0975 or visit www.wabashmarketplace.org.

MARKET

From page A1

Roxy 5 Showtimes for Friday, February 28- Thursday, March 5
All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.

The Invisible Man (R) Fri: 6:30, 9:25 Sat: 12:50, 3:30, 6:30, 9:25 Sun: 12:50, 3:30, 6:30 Mon- Thurs: 6:30	The Call of the Wild (PG) Fri: 6:40, 9:15 Sat: 1:00, 3:35, 6:40, 9:15 Sun: 1:00, 3:35, 6:40 Mon- Thurs: 6:40
Fantasy Island (PG13) Fri: 6:50, 9:35 Sat: 1:20, 4:05, 6:50, 9:35 Sun: 1:20, 4:05, 6:50 Mon- Thurs: 6:50	Sonic the Hedgehog (PG) Fri: 6:20, 9:05 Sat: 1:10, 3:45, 6:20, 9:05 Sun: 1:10, 3:45, 6:20 Mon- Thurs: 6:20
Impractical Jokers: The Movie (PG13) Fri: 7:00, 9:45 Sat: 1:30, 3:55, 7:00 Mon- Thurs: 7:00	

For more information please call
765-460-5322
or visit us online at www.roxyperu.com
Located at 100 Roxy Lane, North edge of Peru

5-Day Weather Summary

 Thursday Few Showers 53 / 32	 Friday Mostly Cloudy 38 / 26	 Saturday Sunny 45 / 38	 Sunday Mostly Sunny 56 / 48	 Monday Rain Likely 54 / 42
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Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 6:44 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 7:13 a.m.

 Full 3/9	 Last 3/16	 New 3/24	 First 4/1
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Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see partly cloudy skies with a 45% chance of showers, high temperature of 53°, humidity of 47%. South southwest wind 10 to 19 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 32°. West northwest wind 14 to 19 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 21°.

Freelancer concerned about missing check

DEAR HARRIETTE: I worked with one company for several years on a freelance basis. I recently completed my last job with them, as I took another job. I thought we parted on good terms, but I question it now because I have not received my last check.

Harriette Cole
Sense & Sensitivity



In the past, the company always paid on time. In fact, it was one of my only clients to be consistent with pay. Now that I am no longer working for the company, it has missed a pay period. I am kind of freaked out. How should I handle this? I don’t want to burn any bridges, and I definitely need the money I am owed. What should I do? – One More Check

DEAR ONE MORE CHECK: Stay positive and assume that the company made a mistake in payroll. Contact the person who handles payment and – pleasantly – ask about the status of your compensation. Ask if you need to resubmit the paperwork and when you can expect to receive payment. If you do not hear back, or if the response is unsatisfactory, reach out to your direct contact to ask for support in getting your invoice paid. Continue to be pleasant, assuming the positive unless and until you receive communication that suggests that the company does not intend to pay your invoice. In that case, you may need to ask an attorney to intervene.

DEAR HARRIETTE: I have been worried for a long time. As a college student, you are required to know what you want to do. I have an idea of what I want, but it’s not set in stone. I love to draw and write. I have created big projects for myself and shared them with others. My dream is to one day show my work to the world, but that dream is a hit-or-miss proposition. I need to think realistically, since some make it big, while others don’t. I am currently aiming to go to law school and become a lawyer, but I have been having second thoughts. Lately, I have been look-

ing into fine arts schools so that I can focus on what I like and improve my writing and art. However, I don’t want my family to think that my dreams are useless and a waste of a college education. I am worried that I am not following my dreams, but following other people’s expectations. It feels like where I am at is just a big waste of time. I am at a crossroads, and I don’t know what to do. I am almost a junior, and I am all over the place. What should I do? – Scared for the Future

DEAR SCARED FOR THE FUTURE: You cannot live anyone else’s life. You have to live your own. If you do not want to be an attorney, don’t go that route. It’s way

too time-consuming and expensive to pursue – unless you are committed to it. If your love is the arts, start doing some serious research to determine what types of jobs exist in your areas of interest. Then find an educational program that will teach you how to do that. You may be able to have a job in the arts as you also develop your creative talents for a fine arts career. Figure out what is possible, and go for it.

Harriette Cole is a stylist and founder of DREAMLEAPERS, an initiative to help people access and activate their dreams. You can send questions to askharriette@harriettecole.com or c/o Andrews McMeel Syndication, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.



Wabash Plain Dealer

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■ **Classified:** classifieds@wabashplaindealer.com

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Friday-Sunday:

Hours vary

■ **Call:** 260-563-2131

■ **Email:** news@wabashplaindealer.com

(Please call in advance of your visit.)

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READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

TUESDAY'S LOTTERIES

Cash 5
08-13-22-26-40
Estimated jackpot: \$95,000
Cash4Life
06-15-25-48-59, Cash Ball: 2
Daily Three-Midday
9-7-3, SB: 7
Daily Three-Evening
9-9-1, SB: 2
Daily Four-Midday
3-3-5-6, SB: 7
Daily Four-Evening
0-4-3-2, SB: 2
Mega Millions
08-12-33-56-64, Mega Ball: 2, Megaplier: 2
Estimated jackpot: \$65 million
Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$80 million

WEDNESDAY'S METALS

Aluminum.....77
Copper.....2.57
Lead......86
Zinc......90
Gold.....1,641.46
Silver.....17.14
Platinum.....869.39

AREA GRAIN

Estimated grain prices
Wednesday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: \$4.04. Soybeans: \$9.03

Obituaries

Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service

We can assist you with your Pre-planning and monument needs.



FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

GRANDSTAFF HENTGEN

Wabash Chapel: Manchester Ave. • 260-563-8879
Bender Chapel, North Manchester • 260-982-4393
Roann Chapel • 765-833-5591
Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash • 260-563-0421
www.grandstaff-hentgen.com

Robert Eugene ‘Bob’ Dillon

Feb. 1, 1941 – Mar. 2, 2020

Robert Eugene “Bob” Dillon, 79, of Wabash, Indiana, died at 10:45 a.m., Monday, Mar. 2, 2020 at Parkview Wabash Hospital. He was born Feb. 1, 1941 in Floyd County, Kentucky to John and Sarah (Deerfield) Dillon.



Bob married Loretta Hunt in Wabash on Feb. 18, 1961. He retired from Wabash Valley Refuse Removal in Wabash, and also worked for Celotex in Lagro and Casco Mineral Wool in Wabash. He was a member of the Lagro Community Church. He enjoyed softball, playing cards, and mushroom hunting.

He is survived by his wife, Loretta Dillon of Wabash, ten children, Bill (Cathy) Dillon of Lagro, Faye (John) Dunnagan of Peru, Ronnie (Dawn Wiist) Dillon of Lagro, Kim (Keith) Snyder of Urbana, Jeff (Fern) at Dillon of Silver Lake, Kelly (Randy) Reahard of Lagro,

Michele Dillon of Wabash, Lori (David) Harrell of LaFontaine, Bradley (Emily) Dillon of Fort Polk, Louisiana, and Heather Daugherty of Wabash, 31 grandchildren, 32 great grandchildren, brother, John (Helen) Dillon of Wabash, and two sisters, Laura Rife and Esther (Robert) Webb, both of Wabash.

He was preceded in death by his parents, seven brothers, and two sisters.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Monday, Mar. 9, 2020 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, 1241 Manchester Avenue, Wabash, with Pastor Tim Prater officiating.

Burial will be in Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash. Friends may call 12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m. Monday, at the funeral home.

The memorial guest book for Bob may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Joyce A. Hacker, 74, of rural Markle, passed away Saturday evening, Feb. 29, 2020, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Joyce was born in Wabash on Nov. 4, 1945, to James and Rhea (Hileman) Kirby. She married John W. Hacker in Rich Valley on Apr. 25, 1965; he survives.

A 1963 graduate of Southwood High School, Joyce was a homemaker, raising her three sons. For many years, she worked at Ames Variety Store (later called Pamida) in Bluffton, until its closing in 2000.

From 1979 until 1989, she was the 4-H leader of the Rockcreek Happy Hearts. She served as past president of the Wells County 4-H Leaders

Joyce A. Hacker

Nov. 4, 1945 – Feb. 29, 2020



Organizations, even representing Wells County 4-H in Washington D.C. for one year. She was long time member and past president for several years of the Better Homes Extension Homemakers Club. Joyce enjoyed croch-

ing, having made many afghans for all of her family. She also enjoyed knitting, cross-stitching, sewing and reading. She, along with her family, enjoyed being outdoors, especially camping and snowmobiling.

In addition to her husband, Joyce is survived by three sons, John Hacker Jr. of Fort Wayne, Jeff (Cari) Hacker of Ossian, and Jamie Hacker of Ossian; seven grandchildren, Gabriel and Rachel Hacker, Todd, Charlie, and Lily Hacker, and Danielle and Markus Hacker; a great-granddaughter, Marlee Coleman; two brothers, Richard “Dick” (Pat) Kirby of Wabash, and Myrl (Cathy) Suddarth; three sisters, Deloris Suddarth, Beverly Suddarth, and Julie

(Phil) Good; and a sister-in-law, Diane Kirby of Wabash.

Aside from her parents, Joyce was preceded in death by a brother, James “Jimmy” Kirby Jr.

Visitation will be Thursday, Mar. 5, 2020, from 3 p.m. – 8 p.m., at Goodwin – Cale & Harnish Memorial Chapel in Bluffton. Services will be Friday, Mar. 6th, at 10 a.m., at the funeral home, with one hour of visitation prior to the service at the funeral home.

Burial will follow at Mossburg Cemetery in Wells County.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wells County 4-H Association.

Online condolences may be made at www.goodwincaleharnish.com.

William ‘Bill’ Switzer

Graveside services and burial for William “Bill” Switzer, of Lagro, will be 10 a.m. Tuesday, Mar. 10, 2020 in the Marion National Cemetery. Friends may call 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. Monday, at Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Wabash.

PULSE

From page A1

putting on the Spring 2020 Variety Show at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 5 in Cordier Auditorium. The show at the North Manchester campus is free and open to the public.

Wabash VFW Post 286 plans fish fry

The Wabash Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 286 has planned a fish fry from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 6 at 3678 W. Old 24. The all-you-can-eat dine-in menu includes hand-breaded fish, baked beans, coleslaw and hush puppies. Carry-out will be available. The cost is \$8 per person and the event is open to the public. For more information, call 260-563-2463.

Wabash Marketplace announces March First Friday details

Organized by Wabash Marketplace, First Friday encourages the community to celebrate in downtown Wabash from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 6. For more information, visit www.wabashmarketplace.org, or call 260-563-0975.

Taste of Africa offered at MU

The African Student Association at Manchester University wants to share a Taste of Africa with a culinary exploration of the abundance of African cultures and a celebration of African society with enticing tastes, vibrant fashions, lively sounds and spectacular dancing. The event is set for 6 p.m. Saturday, March 7 at the upper level of the Jo Young Switzer Center. It is free and open to the public.

‘Death by Chocolate’ tickets on sale

The Wabash Area Community Theater’s winter comedy “Death by Chocolate” will open at 6 p.m. and dinner is at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7; and doors will open at noon and dinner is at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 8 at the Charley Creek Inn. Tickets are on sale

now at the Charley Creek Inn reception desk. For more information, call Bruce Roveltstad at 260-330-0543 or Bev Vanderpool at 765-661-8206.

Richvalley Lions Club plans semi-annual Tenderloin Day

The Richvalley Lions Club has planned a semi-annual Tenderloin Day from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7 at the Richvalley Community Center, 56 Mill St. Hand-breaded tenderloins, baked potato, applesauce, baked beans, pickles, bread and butter will be served. The cost is \$9 each and children ages 10 to 12 will be \$5. Carry-outs will be available, and it will be all-you-can-eat for dine-in only.

Beginner’s one-day stained-glass class scheduled

A beginner’s one-day stained-glass class instructed by local stained glass artist Katy Gray will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 8 at Salamonie Interpretive and Nature Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The cost is \$25 per participant. A red-tailed hawk feather sun catcher will be made. All materials will be supplied. Call 260-468-2127 for registration or questions.

‘Thinking Big about Smaller Spaces’ program set

The North Manchester Historical Society (NMHS) will be hosting Chuck Fluaharty the founder, president and CEO of the Rural Policy Research Institution (RUPRI) at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 9 in the assembly room of Timbercrest Senior Living Center, 2201 East St. There will be no charge for attendance.

Frances Slocum Chapter of the DAR to meet

The Wabash County Frances Slocum Chapter of the Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 10 at the Grandstaff Hentgen Activity Room, 1241 Manchester Ave. In honor of Women’s History Month, the speaker will be

Rosemarie Felts sharing her story as a German immigrant and the old German School. Prospective members and guests are always welcome to attend. DAR membership is open to any woman 18 years of age, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution. Those having questions about their family history lineage information may visit www.dar.org or call Linda Thompson at 260-563-4661 or Barbara Amiss at 260-982-4376.

Woman’s Clubhouse to host March luncheon

The Woman’s Clubhouse will welcome Teresa Rody, interpretive manager from the Upper Wabash Interpretive Services, with a program featuring live raptors, after the noon luncheon Tuesday, March 10. Reynold’s Oil is sponsoring the live bird program. Make your reservations by calling Carol McDonald at 260-563-2331, or Mary DeLauter, 260-563-6613 for the lunch and program or just the program.

Salute to Ag Dinner to honor 2019 Farm Family of the Year

Grow Wabash County and the Salute to Ag committee have announced that Steve Flack and his family have been selected as the 2019 Farm Family of the Year. They will be recognized for their contributions to the Wabash County agriculture industry during Grow Wabash County’s annual Salute to Ag Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 11 at the Heartland REMC, 350 Wedcor Ave. Tickets are \$20 each and sponsorship opportunities are available ranging from \$100 up to \$2,500. Registration may be completed by visiting growwabashcounty.com/events, by emailing info@growwabashcounty.com or calling 260-563-5258.

Film festival concludes March 12 at Manchester

Manchester University will present “Kinshasa Makambo” at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 12 in the Cordier Auditorium. The film is free and open to the public. The show-

ing is part of the Tournées Film Festival, a series of six films by francophone directors.

Laketon American Legion Auxiliary Unit 402 plans dinner

The Laketon American Legion Auxiliary Unit 402 has planned a dinner from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 13 at the Bluebird Cafe, 15 N. Main St., Laketon. The menu will include a choice of fish, shrimp, beef and noodles, meatloaf, potatoes, salad and drink. The cost is \$8. Pie is \$2. Carry-outs will be available. For more information, call Thelma Butler at 260-438-0341.

Komets game to celebrate Wabash County March 13

Wabash County will be the MVP during the third annual Wabash County Night at the Fort Wayne Komets game at 8:05 p.m. Friday, March 13 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne. While supplies last, tickets can be bought for \$15 per ticket at <https://groupmatics.events/event/Wabashcommunity3> or by emailing Mitch Meinholz at mitch@komets.com or by calling 260-482-6812.

Intermediate 2-day stained-glass scheduled

A two-day intermediate class instructed by local stained-glass artist Katy Gray will be held from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14 and Sunday, March 15 at Salamonie Interpretive and Nature Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. All participants of this class must have had recent, prior stained glass cutting and smoothing experience. The cost is \$40. The project will be a bee on a cone flower. Call 260-468-2127 for registration or questions.

Adult mental Health First Aid training planned

Purdue Extension will offer Adult Mental Health First Aid training from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 17 at the Wabash REMC

Community Room, 350 Wedcor Ave. The Mental Health First Aid program is open to any adult. For more information, visit www.extension.purdue.edu/mhfa or contact Mindy Mayes by email at mayes7@purdue.edu or by phone at 260-663-0661 ext. 1408.

St. Trolley’s Day Tour on sale

Visit Wabash County has announced that tickets for the St. Trolley’s Day Tour happening on March 14 are available for purchase. Tour times offered are 6, 6:30 or 7 p.m. and will last about two hours. The St. Trolley’s Day Tour is \$25 per person and all-inclusive. To register for this tour, visit www.VisitWabashCounty.com and click on Tours/Trolley Rental. You may also stop in the Welcome Center at 221 S. Miami St., or call 260-563-7171. Tickets are \$25 per person and is due upon registration. You must be 21 or older to participate in this tour.

Wabash Kiwanis Club’s Pancake Day returns in March

The Wabash Kiwanis Club will host its annual Pancake Day fundraiser, the service organization’s biggest annual fundraiser, from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, March 14, at the Bob Elrod Exhibit Hall, located just off of Gillen Avenue at the Wabash County 4-H Fairgrounds. The event’s Pancake Eating Contest will return and will start at noon. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$8 at the door for adults (13 and older) and \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door for children ages 6-12. Children 5 and younger eat for free. Tickets are available from Wabash Kiwanis members. Those who have questions can contact Mike Keaffaber at keaffaber@msdwc.k12.in.us.

NMCH to host Smithsonian traveling exhibit

The North Manchester Center for History will be hosting the Smithsonian’s traveling exhibit, “Crossroads: Change in Rural America” from March 21 to May 3.

Tour and visit St. Bernard Elementary School during March

Tour and visit St. Bernard Elementary School from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. any Monday or Wednesday during March at 191 N. Cass St. The school is enrolling grades pre-kindergarten through sixth grades. For more information call Pam Dyer at 260-563-5746.

Manchester invites high school students to submit compositions

The Manchester University Department of Music seeks high school composers for its first Composition Workshop and Reading Session on Wednesday, April 8. They are invited to submit original compositions to be performed and recorded by Manchester University faculty musicians. The deadline is March 23. Send submissions to Reed at tmreed@manchester.edu. Submissions should include a score (PDF or Finale file); contact information with name, phone number and mailing address; and name of high school currently attending. There is no fee to submit. Selected composers will be contacted with details about the evening event via email.

Celebrate Ivy Tech in Wabash at Monopoly Night

Ivy Tech Community College is hosting its 11th annual Wabash Monopoly Night from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, April 24 in the Parkview Health Ballroom of Eagles Theatre, 106 W. Market St. This event is open to the community. Guests must RSVP by April 15 to Laura Leichty by email at lleichty@ivytech.edu or by phone 260-481-2243.

MU to honor Steve Ford at 2020 Commencement

Manchester University will honor Steve Ford, president and chief executive officer of the Ford Meter Box, on Saturday, May 16, at both the morning and afternoon commencement exercises.

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
http://young.senate.gov/contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
http://braun.senate.gov/

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. David Wolkins, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website:
www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainedeal.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

- Galatians 6:2

We may be about to see why health care is a public need

Nobody wants to see a global pandemic that will strike billions and kill millions. But, if it happened, it might finally drive home the point that universal access to health care – in whatever form and by whatever means – is not an act of charity.

It is an act of self-preservation. The threat that the new coronavirus could spread worldwide, overwhelming health care systems in nations advanced and not so, completely ignoring borders and immigration laws, is beginning to focus the minds of many people.

The financial markets seem to have wasted no time in panicking over the prospect of a widespread illness that, if nothing else, stands to disrupt global supply chains, stop travel and depress all manner of economic activity.

That, in turn, seemed to draw the attention of the White House, where the president went out of his way to reassure us all that everything was under control and appointed his own second in command, Vice President Mike Pence, to coordinate the stepped-up efforts to contain and control the outbreak.

It didn't help very much that, even as the president was trying to calm

our fears by describing the coronavirus threat as a small one, some of the few actual experts in such things were telling us that we should be very concerned and should be taking precautions, as individuals and as states and nations.

It also didn't help very much that the new coronavirus czar is someone who, in past positions as a commentator and as governor of Indiana, was slow to react to the spread of AIDS, denied the link between tobacco and cancer and dismissed climate change as a hoax. Or that the administration will be trying to stop any information about the disease from coming from any government source other than Pence.

The looming threat also makes clear the need for a competent federal administration, a government made up of people who believe that government has basic responsibilities that must be tended to all the time, no matter who is in power.

Widespread panic will not help. But widespread panic is infinitely more likely without widespread confidence in the ability of our government to handle crucial matters of public health.

One matter that may be brought into high relief by the coronavirus – or whatever biological threat comes after that – is that the United States at once offers world class health care and stands barely above some Third World nations in its ability to deliver that care to those without insurance. With the right kind of leadership, we could stem the progress of an epidemic.

When you have millions of people who cannot afford to go to the doctor, who cannot find whatever vaccinations or other treatments may be available, who cannot go without even a day's pay if they are sick, or keep their children out of school, you then have millions more people who are vulnerable to the spread of the infection.

In a society like that, people who can afford a doctor visit, a prescription, a sick day are scarcely more protected than people who can't.

Universal access to health care has often been seen as a luxury taxpayers are being asked to provide to people who can't afford it on their own.

People who have made that argument won't be the only ones to get sick.

This editorial was first published in The Salt Lake Tribune.

LETTER

No good presidential candidates

President Donald Trump continued the economic recovery and reinvigorated our military with increases in defense spending. Conversely, he weakened environmental regulations; moved funds from military construction projects to fund the border wall; and hurt our standing in the world, including our relationship with friendly countries. Trump continually lies about events and policies and demeans the Presidency with his derogatory comments and gutter-ly uncivilized language. He garners attention with his negativity.

Trump has weakened our national security by attacking the FBI and intelligence agencies. These attacks are launched when he disagrees with the findings of the agencies.

I don't see any viable Democratic presidential candidates. Sanders, a socialist, and Warren, a fake Native American; hold radical views supported by leftists in their party. Buttigieg is a former small-city mayor with no national experience, and he showed poor judgment when he declared victory in the Iowa caucuses before the official results were in. Klobuchar cannot generate a national following. Steyer and Bloomberg are looked down upon for trying to buy the election. And Biden, who is highly qualified to be president, is aging. Some of them are running to garner name recognition for other races.

We need independents to run for president to represent independents across the country.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry, New Hampshire

A nomination solution

By JON BINGHAM

Once again, Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and South Carolina winnow the field and shape the race. The avalanche of 14 Super Tuesday contests defines (no, more like overwhelms) the prospects of the few primaries remaining. Meanwhile, Indiana watches from the sidelines.

Beyond the political calendar noted above, many other flaws in the nomination process persist: the variety of rules for delegate apportionment (proportional or winner-take-all), many states having "open" primaries thus allowing non-party voters to impact the party's results, the potential influence of super delegates, etc. The process has no rhyme or reason other than political actors gaining and maintaining their opportunities for undue power and influence. The solution is not found in joining the existing game by shoving Indiana into Super Tuesday in future years.

Rather, in light of the recurring frustrations of the current system every election cycle, my therapy has been to ponder, craft and refine a framework that would create an election process truly worthy of the office it seeks to fill. After all, this is the Presidency of the United States.

My "Presidential Nomination Solution" is simple yet dynamic, giving all states occasional early opportunity to influence the nomination. Its design is purposeful, non-partisan, fair, understandable and transparent. The following key features will eliminate political maneuvering and significantly improve public confidence in the outcome.

The first vote involves three states: No one state should get as much focus as Iowa has. Yet, the number of states getting first focus should remain rather small. A large number of states all at once at the beginning would overwhelm any prospects of lesser-known candidates being able to be heard and considered. Three states to start allows retail politics to remain a part of the process.

Simple, consistent voting format across the states: I usually am no fan of federal solutions for the states.

However, the Presidency is the ultimate federal office. As such, this election process should have some aspects of consistency aligned with how the general election occurs. Thus, all state Presidential nomination contests should simply be primaries (using the same voting infrastructure as the general) scheduled on Tuesdays.

Closed primaries: Democrats should select the Democrat nominee. Republicans should select the Republican nominee. Those not willing to affiliate with that party should not impact that selection. Party affiliation status must be in place before January 1st of the election year.

The calendar – not too early, not too late, not too fast, not too slow: The first three states' primary date will be in early February (as is typical now). Two weeks will separate most election dates in February, March and April, allowing space for campaign activities and a debate among remaining candidates between those primaries. In late April and through May, the pace of voting in the remaining states becomes weekly to complete all 50 states before Memorial Day.

As such:
■ Six states vote in February.
■ 12 states vote in March.
■ 12 states vote in April.
■ 20 states wrap up the voting in May.

No Super Tuesdays: The volume of states on any primary date will remain manageable for candidates who are emerging as viable due to early voting results.

The pacing and volume are:
■ Three states, then two weeks (with debate)
■ Three states, then two weeks (with debate)
■ Six states, then two weeks (with debate)
■ Three states, then one week
■ Three states, then two weeks (with debate)
■ Six states, then two weeks (with debate)
■ Three states, then one week
■ Three states, then one week
■ Six states, then one week
■ Six states, then one week

■ Eight states as the final set
Order of the states: Keeping things simple, use alphabetical order.

Thus the first time this system is implemented:

■ The first three states would be Alabama, Alaska and Arizona.

■ The second three would be Arkansas, California and Colorado.

■ The first set of six states would be Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii and Idaho. And so on ...

Rotation of the states: The first 12 states in one election cycle drop to the bottom of the list the next time.

Thus, the second time this process is used:

■ The first three states would be Illinois, Indiana and Iowa.

■ The second three would be Kansas, Kentucky and Louisiana.

■ The first set of six states would be Maine, Maryland (and Washington, D.C.), Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota and Mississippi. And so on ...

(Note: Due to 50 states being shifted by 12 each cycle, the process is even more dynamic. For instance, the next time Alabama is early, it is with Wisconsin and Wyoming.)

No super delegates or unbound delegates: All delegates are won directly and only based on each state's primary results. Achieving a simple majority of the delegate count secures the nomination.

Purposefully graduated system of winning delegates:

The first six states – In the earliest contests, when the result is a plurality (when no candidate gets 50 percent or more of the vote), there is value in rewarding the top 3 strong performers in each state. This keeps multiple candidates involved in the next phase. For each state having a plurality, the highest vote-getter wins half of the delegates, the second place candidate gets a third and third place gets a sixth. However, if a candidate gets 50 percent or more in the state, all delegates go to that winner.

The next 12 states – The field needs to narrow more during this phase, yet not necessarily completely. For each state having a plurality result, the top vote-getter wins

two-thirds of the delegates while the second place candidate gets a third. However, if a candidate gets 50 percent or more in the state, all delegates are won.

The remaining 32 states – Whether majority or plurality, the winner gets all of the state's delegates. This arrangement increases the likelihood of one candidate securing the nomination.

Loyalty of delegates: In June, candidates are responsible to select their delegates from each state so that they are assured of loyalty during the convention proceedings.

First ballot – On the first ballot, no surprises occur as all delegates vote according to primary results. If no candidate has the majority of delegates, all candidates with less than 10 percent (and any other candidates who wish to withdraw at that time) are removed from consideration.

Second and subsequent ballot(s) (when necessary) – All delegates for candidates on the second ballot remain loyal. All delegates of candidates not on the second ballot are to vote among the remaining options. As long as no candidate wins the simple majority, the candidate with the lowest delegate count on that ballot is removed and the process is repeated for subsequent ballots as needed.

Loyalty of candidates: Once this fair and transparent process is in place, candidates should no longer be allowed to threaten a third-party run. Anyone considering a third-party run should simply do so. However, anyone who enters a party's nomination process forfeits the option of running for President or Vice-President as an independent or other party candidate that year.

These features of the Presidential Nomination Solution provide the framework that addresses the wide variety of shortcomings in the current system. Now is the time for genuine reform to create an election process worthy of the office it seeks to fill.

Jon Bingham is a senior lecturer of economics at Indiana University Southeast. More information about The Presidential Nomination Solution can be found at https://pppjon.wixsite.com/presnomsolution.



Food



Photo provided by Lynda Balslev for Tastefood

Dukkah is an essential Middle Eastern condiment made from ground nuts, sesame seeds and whole spices.

Hummus gets a makeover with harissa and dukkah

By **LYNDA BALSLEV**

Hummus is my go-to appetizer. And while traditional chickpea hummus is always a favorite, it’s fun to riff on this popular Middle Eastern dip with additional ingredients. For instance, vibrant beet hummus and roasted carrot hummus are flavorful and colorful additions to any menu and highly decorative on a party table.

This red pepper hummus is my latest rendition, which is smoky, sweet and fragrant with spice. Using the faithful chickpea as a base, I added roasted red peppers and fiery harissa paste to the mix as a spicy dip for vegetables and bread.

It’s garnished with dukkah, which is an essential Middle Eastern condiment made from ground nuts, sesame seeds and whole spices. It may appear underwhelming, but I assure you it is not. Dukkah is crunchy and aromatic, and adds extra texture and flavor to an assortment of dishes. It can simply be sprinkled over bread dipped in olive oil, or swirled into dips and spreads, scattered over salads, or used as a coating for meat and fish. And the good news is that it stores exceptionally well. You can make a batch of this versatile mix and keep it in the re-

frigerator for up to six months for handy sprinkling.

Smoky Red Pepper Hummus with Dukkah
Active Time: 15 minutes
Total Time: 15 minutes
Yield: Makes about 1 1/2 cups hummus and 3/4 cup dukkah (both recipes may easily be doubled)

- Hummus:**
- 1 (15-ounce) can chickpeas, drained
 - 1 large roasted red bell pepper, drained well if using a jarred pepper
 - 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
 - 2 garlic cloves
 - 2 tablespoons tahini
 - 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
 - 1 to 2 teaspoons harissa paste (or Sriracha)
 - 1 teaspoon ground cumin
 - 1/2 teaspoon ground coriander
 - 1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt, or more to taste
 - 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- Dukkah:**
- 1/2 cup hazelnuts
 - 1/4 cup raw almonds
 - 2 tablespoons sesame seeds
 - 1 tablespoon cumin seeds
 - 1 tablespoon coriander seeds
 - 2 teaspoons black peppercorns

- 1 teaspoon fennel seeds
- 1 teaspoon sea salt

Make the hummus:

Combine all of the hummus ingredients in the bowl of a food processor, and process until smooth. If too thick, add additional olive oil or warm water to your desired consistency.

Make the dukkah:

Toast the hazelnuts in a skillet over medium heat until fragrant and colored. Remove and pour onto a clean kitchen towel. Cover with the towel and rub to remove the skins. Cool the hazelnuts.

Separately, toast the almonds until golden brown, and toast the sesame seeds until light golden.

Add the cumin, coriander, peppercorns and fennel seeds to a clean skillet and toast until fragrant, about 1 minute.

Combine the nuts and seeds in the bowl of a food processor and process until finely ground. Add the salt and taste for seasoning. Use immediately or store in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 6 months.

Serve the hummus garnished with dukkah and chopped fresh mint and/or cilantro.

Pomegranate salsa

By **THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH**

Place a bowl of this attractive dish on any table and serve up some delicious cancer-fighting phytochemicals. This quick and easy recipe has many satisfying combinations – savory, sweet, crunchy, juicy, bright and colorful. Once prepared it can be served as an appetizer with baked whole-grain pita chips or used to top salad, salmon, chicken or plain yogurt.

Ingredients

- 1 cup pomegranate arils
- 1/2 nectarine, peach or Fuji apple, finely chopped
- 2 tsp. pomegranate molasses or 2 Tbsp. pomegranate juice
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro

Makes 10 servings (2 tbsp per serving). Per serving: 20 calories, 0 g total fat (0 g saturated fat, 0 g trans fat), 0 mg cholesterol, 5 g carbohydrates, 0 g protein, 1 g dietary fiber, 60 mg sodium, 3 g sugar, 0 g added sugar.

Directions

In bowl, use fork to combine pomegranate arils, nectarine, onion, pomegranate molasses or pomegranate juice, salt and 3-4 grinds pepper. Mix in cilantro. Let salsa sit for 10 minutes so flavors can meld.

Tips

To add spice, use fresh diced jalapeno to taste.

Salsa keeps for 2 days, tightly covered in the refrigerator.

Serve as accompaniment with chicken, turkey, pork chops or grilled shrimp. Sprinkle over green



Photo provided

This quick and easy recipe has many satisfying combinations – savory, sweet, crunchy, juicy, bright and colorful.

salad, combine with cooked quinoa or add a spoonful to garnish a bowl of butternut squash soup.

Food stamp change fuels anxiety as states try to curb impact

By **SOPHIA TAREEN**
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Having food stamps offers Richard Butler a stability he’s rarely known in his 25 years. He was in state custody at age 2, spent his teen years at a Chicago boys’ home and jail for burglary, and has since struggled to find a permanent home.

The \$194 deposited monthly on his benefits card buys fresh produce and meat.

“It means the world to me,” said Butler, who shares a one-bedroom apartment with two others. “We can go without a lot of things, like phones and music. We can’t go without eating.”

But that stability is being threatened for people like Butler, who are able-bodied, without dependents and between the ages 18 and 49. New Trump administration rules taking effect April 1 put hundreds of thousands of people in his situation at risk of losing their benefits. They hit particularly hard in places like Illinois, which also is dealing with a separate, similar change in the nation’s third-largest city.

From Hawaii to Pennsylvania, states are scrambling to blunt the impact of the new rules, with roughly 700,000 people at risk of losing benefits unless they meet certain work, training or school requirements. They’ve filed a multi-state lawsuit, expanded publicly funded job training, developed pilot programs and doubled down efforts to reach vulnerable communities, including the homeless, rural residents and people of color.

Social service agencies say they won’t be able to fill the gap, making increased homelessness and more hospital visits among the biggest concerns. Experts say they’ve already seen troubling signs in some states.

“This is a cascading effect,” said Robert Campbell, managing director at Feeding America, a network of hundreds of food banks nationwide. “It will increase demands on the emergency food system, food banks and pantries.”

Currently, work-eligible, able-bodied adults without dependents under 50 can receive monthly benefits if they meet a 20-hour weekly work, job training or school requirement. Those who don’t are are limited to three months of food stamps over three years.

However, states with high unemployment or few jobs have been able to waive time limits. Every state except Delaware has sought a waiver at some point, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

The new rules make it harder to get waivers. They’re the first of three changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, which feeds 36 million people nationwide.

The Trump administration has touted the change as a way to get people working and save \$5.5 billion over five years. Able-bodied adults without dependents are 7 percent of SNAP recipients.

But states fighting the change say that argument is misguided.

“Not everyone is in a position to get a job tomorrow, and taking away access to food is only going to make that more difficult,” said Pennsylvania Department of Human Services Secretary Teresa Miller. “We’re going to have more hungry people in the state.”

Pennsylvania – where as many as 100,000 people could be affected – is working with social services groups to create 30 job training programs for SNAP recipients.

However, experts say work opportunities are limited.

More than half of SNAP recipients have a high school diploma, but about one-quarter have less, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Available jobs are more likely to have low pay, shifting schedules that might not offer enough qualifying hours and few benefits like paid sick leave.

“Work requirements really don’t really do much to affect the rate at which people are working,” said Elaine Waxman at the Urban Institute, a nonprofit research organization. “If peo-

ple can work and consistently, they pretty much are.”

Some states are focusing on rural areas, which have less access to transportation and services.

Hawaii, for instance, wants to develop a pilot program to help 400 Molokai residents keep benefits. The rural island once had a waiver because of high unemployment, but the new rules assign Molokai to the same job market as nearby, more prosperous Maui, even though a 30-minute plane ride is the only way to travel between the islands.

The program would use education, training and volunteering to fulfill the work requirement. It’s modeled after similar programs used in remote Alaska, which is seeking waivers for less-populated areas. Roughly 5,000 in Alaska could lose benefits.

Attorneys general in nearly 20 states and Washington, D.C., have sued to block the rules. They argue the changes will force people to divert their limited funds, leading to homelessness and health problems.

People with food insecurity spend 45 percent more on medical care annually than those who are food secure, according to a 2018 report by the nonprofit Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Experts say critics’ worries are founded and point to Kentucky as a case study.

Like a handful of states, Kentucky has voluntarily instated time limits for SNAP benefits since 2017. More than 13,000 people in Kentucky lost benefits because they reached the three-month limit, according to a 2019 Urban Institute report.

Anecdotally, there’s been an increase in food pantry visits.

In Fayette County, which lost its waiver in 2018, the average number of monthly household visits to food pantries jumped from 1,800 to 2,000, according Michael Halligan, CEO of God’s Pantry Food Bank in Lexington.

“Starving people does not help them get employment,” said Mary Frances Charlton, a Chicago Coalition for the Homeless attorney.

It’s a double whammy for Illinois as Cook County lost its waiver this year because of low unemployment, something that has happened in other states as economic conditions improve. Roughly 90,000 statewide will be affected by the Trump rule change at the same time another approximately 58,000 will risk losing benefits in the Chicago area.

For Charlton, it’s been worrisome as many of her clients lack access to mail and internet, and they might not find out until they go grocery shopping and discover a \$0 balance on their Illinois Link cards. She’s working to get exemptions for as many as possible.

For instance, Butler may qualify because of mental health issues that have made it difficult for him to keep a job. He’s among the residents affected by the county change, but would have faced the same fate under the Trump administration rules.

In trying to deal with the volume of questions about the issue, Illinois has dedicated an email address just for the food stamps changes and hopes to add more job training.

Inspiration Corporation, a nonprofit, runs a training kitchen and restaurant out of a converted Chicago warehouse. It has proposed increasing its number of spots for SNAP participants from 35 to 45.

On a recent day, fractions used in measuring were scrawled on a white board near the kitchen, which serves Southern-inspired fare like grits.

Trainee Anthony Redmond, 44, started receiving food stamps when he was released from prison last summer. With the help, he was able to leave a halfway house and find his own place. After the training, he hopes to find employment and keep his benefits.

He dreams of opening a fleet of food trucks.

“If you take something that a person really needs and depends on and they don’t have any other life skills to get a job, to benefit their family,” he said, “it’s just going to cause trouble.”

HISTORY

From page A1

before becoming a state in 1816. Indiana was populated from the southeast to the northwest. Wabash County was surveyed between 1828 and 1834. The North Manchester plat was recorded in 1837 and the Hartsough farm was one of the early pieces of land deeded.

In 1800, there had been no trees cut in Indiana. In 70 to 80 years most of the trees were cut to provide farmland. The two-man crosscut saw only started to be used in the 1850s and 1860s. Before that, trees were cut down with an ax.

“If you can imagine just how much work that was,” said Hartsough.

Just after the turn of the 20th century, Hartsough’s great-grandfather purchased 40 acres after losing everything once before during a recession in the 1890s.

“We have been a financially frugal family ever since. I was taught you don’t want to be in debt,” said Hartsough. “It’s interesting how an 1890 experience carries through the generations.”

Right around the time of North Manchester’s beginnings, the threshing machine came on the scene.

“Up to that time you were still doing a lot of hand threshing of grain,” said Hartsough. “In this time, the steam engine and threshing machine were two of the major pieces of machinery. My grandfather was an owner of one of these along with several other people in the community. They would go around and thresh at different farms as they could.”

Hartsough’s grandfather worked as a sacker, catching the grain the machine was finished with.

“He had a pretty bad case of emphysema when he got older because he was always breathing the dust of the grain that was going into the sack,” he said.

Rural electrification changes everything

Though Wabash became the first electrically-lighted city in the world in the 1880s, there was still no gridwork available to push electricity to the more rural areas.

In about 1928, North Manchester was powered with electricity from the Huntington area.

“Those high-voltage lines went right by our farm,” said Hartsough. “Those same lines still come along that highway.”

Because of their proximity, Hartsough’s grandparents were among the first in the area to have electricity on their farm.

International Harvester had several electrical-driven items for sale at the time. In 1932, the company sent a photographer to take photos of Hartsough’s family using some of these products.

One photo shows his grandmother washing clothes in the basement of the house he still lives in. Another shows the family gathered around a radio. Another shows Hartsough’s father, then 12 years old, milking cows using the electrically-driven vacuum pump.

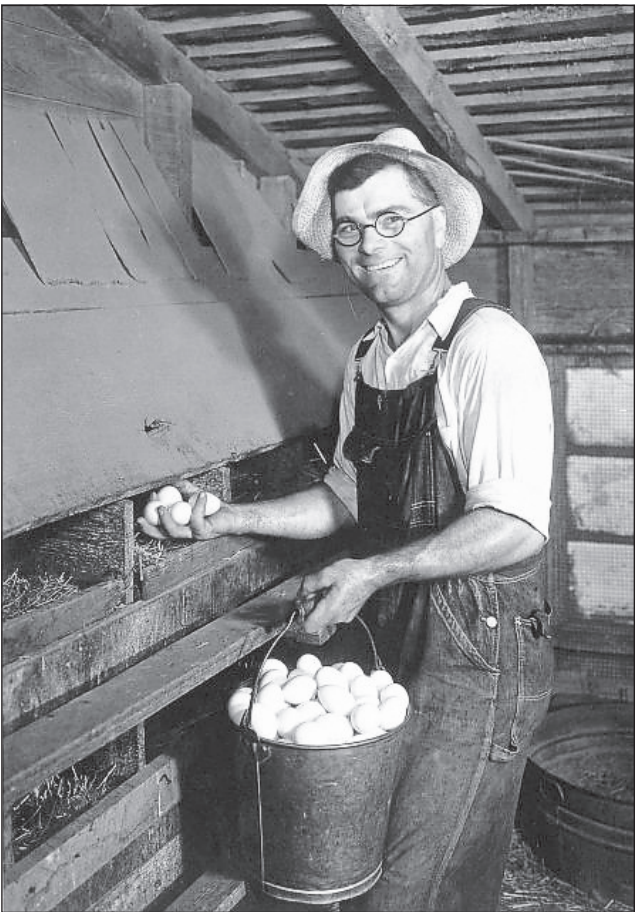
“I just went out this afternoon and checked and that hole that the exhaust from the electrically driven vacuum pump is still there,” said Hartsough.

Those photos were eventually used in advertising in 1934 by International Harvester in one of their publications in 1934 called Tractor Farming magazine, in a calendar and a display at the Indiana State Fair.

Mechanization increases productivity

Mechanization took a lot of the drudgery out of the work of farming, as evidenced by one of the headlines featured in the farming magazines of the time: “No more pitchforks.”

“Machines were taking over the heavier manual labor,” said Hartsough. “Farming has always been about efficiency. Prices are pretty much out of our control, so even in the 1930s, you’re talking about reducing the cost of production. One way



Photos provided

UPPER LEFT: John Hartsough’s father, left, and grandfather separate the cream from the milk. LEFT: Photos of Hartsough’s family were used in a display at the 1934 Indiana State Fair. ABOVE: Hartsough’s grandfather smiles for the camera as he harvests eggs in this 1932 International Harvester publicity photo.



to reduce the cost of production is to speed things up.”

As an example, Hartsough compared the changes in productivity relating to harvesting corn. By hand, corn can be harvested at a rate of 15 ears per minute. The introduction of the one-row corn picker increased that to 120 ears per minute. A two-row corn picker bumped that number up to 240 ears per minute. Today, an eight-row combine moving at 4.5 miles per hour can handle up to 6,000 ears per minute.

Hartsough said land management philosophies have changed as well, further increasing production.

“In those days many fields of corn were planted with check-row planters so the plants were all equal distance. At 40-inch centers, you could get 15,000 plants in an acre. Today we like to have 34,000 plants per acre,” he said.

Hydraulics came on the scene about the 1940s and “changed the whole picture.” “Hydraulics means with a little force of your hand you can move a lever and do thousands of pounds of work,” said Hartsough. “Today we have electric over hydraulics, so now instead of using hand or your arm you use your fingers like a keyboard.”

One side effect of all this labor-saving technology is increased education for the farm family.

“Mechanization allowed the farmer more time to read,” he said.

Moving away from tilling

In 1955, then Vice President Richard Nixon attended a national plowing contest held in Urbana. The winner was determined by who had the least amount of residue on the surface.

“That was what good plowing was,” said Hartsough.

Now, very few farmers would consider this a best practice.

“By far the greatest major-

ity now are doing very minimum tillage, leaving quite a bit of residue on the surface, and now even no-till,” said Hartsough. “If you would have told my grandfather or even my dad you could plant a crop without tilling the soil and have it grow they’d say, ‘You’re nuts.’ But we know how to do it now.”

Hartsough said this shift had to do with changing attitudes on what constitutes good soil stewardship. Historians now regard over-plowing as one of the causes of the Great Dust Bowl.

“We admire John Deere, but probably that plow should have never been used in the Great Plains,” he said. “They were coming off the Great Depression, prices were very low and the machinery allowed people to do more acres and so they just went out into land that had never been broken before and the first year it produced pretty well. They had some dry years and dust like crazy. A lot of topsoils were blown away. That’s one example of a machine that should have been parked a little earlier than it was.”

Science continues to streamline production

Hartsough said farmers have been very quick to adopt almost any technology “because it makes us more efficient. And the computer is no different.”

Hartsough said the technology of artificial insemination first came into being in the 1920s and 1930s when scientists first learned how to collect bull semen. He said this allowed farms to choose what traits they wanted to improve in their herd.

“It has to do with science,” he said. “We began to learn how to handle sperm and, also, once you’ve got that higher production we were using science to understand the nutrient requirements of

the cow and how we could provide them.”

Also, Hartsough said the balance of fiber, protein and amino acids in a cow’s feed can now be accurately calculated using advanced technology.

“We make total mixed rations so that every bite of feed that the cow puts into its mouth is exactly what it needs. It’s completely balanced,” he said. “I told my kids when they were growing up I could make them a stew that we could eat it every day and it could give them all the nutrients they wanted just like a cow. They decided I should be an animal nutritionist and not a human nutritionist.”

Hartsough said hybrid seed corn advancements have also increased production.

“Open-pollinated was what was used up to that point. Then we got into double-crosses, single crosses and GMOs (genetically modified organisms),” he said. “The GMOs did not add a lot to production, but it made it so we didn’t have to use as much insecticide. We could do weeding without killing the crop.”

Hartsough said farmers now take soil samples every few acres. Those samples are then fed into computers for soil testing.

“It saves money in the long run and keeps the soil nutrients balanced a little better,” he said.

Hartsough said dairy production has been digitized through transponders attached to each cow which measures everything from

distance to how often a cow regurgitates to body temperature.

“Many (are) on the ankle so they can count how many steps,” he said. “When a cow is in heat and needed to be bred, she walks more.”

Hartsough said with all this data collection technology, baselines can be set so that even a herd of 3,000 can be easily managed.

“Those farmers know more individual information about those cows than when we had 25 at home,” he said.

Hartsough said the physical properties of milk are measured by computers so that infections in udders can be spotted days ahead due to secretions in the milk.

“Milk is valued based on components,” he said. “We now have real-time information in the computer of how much fat in the milk.”

Hartsough said milk collection is now designed so that it never touches the air.

“It goes to a flat-plate heat exchanger which cools it and then put into a milk tank,” he said. “Milk is not contaminated with any bacteria that floating through the air to the processing plant to the jug in the grocery store.”

Hartsough said current milk collection methods involve robotic milkers that disinfect and dry each teat. He said this was much different from when he was growing up.

“Contrast that when I milked cows. We had buckets, we took the lid off the bucket ... and carried it into the milk house,” he said. “We poured the milk into a funnel that sat on a 10-gallon can. In the summer especially the flies would come out of the funnel. Then that milk would be in a 10 gallon can and then when we got done milking we put that in a milk cooler that poured cold water over it. Today’s milk is the highest quality milk we’ve ever had because of technology and computers.”

Hartsough said changes in swine production have not

only increased output and safety but animal welfare, as well.

“Most of the hogs today are in confinement buildings,” he said. “One person takes care of 4,000 hogs. I remember our sows were in the pasture not far from my bedroom window and I could hear those sows squealing at each other all night trying to find the warmest place among them. And I look at the operations today in terms of animal welfare and think we didn’t have anything on animal welfare back in those days. ... Today’s buildings are climate-controlled from the owner’s iPhone. He knows exactly what’s going on in those buildings.”

Still a need for human labor

Hartsough said even with the advancements in technology, human expertise still has a place in farming.

“You may have a computer that knows that a cow gave a certain percent less milk that milking and when she leaves the milking part, a door will automatically open that puts her in the exam pen. Somebody has to take care of that cow in the exam pen,” he said.

Hartsough said immigrant labor is an essential component in the modern farm workforce.

“The change in population in North Manchester has occurred with quite a number of immigrant workers. I know businesses in the animal production business that want to hire people native to the culture and they train them for a couple of weeks, the work for a couple of weeks and then they’re gone. Immigrant workers don’t leave. They are extremely good workers. They add tremendously to our economy, but politically we have not treated them fairly yet,” he said.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.



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Huge second half sends Norse to semis

The Northfield boys' basketball scored 55 second-half points at Southern Wells against North Miami on Tuesday to earn a 85-50 win in its sectional opener.

Dillon Tomlinson and Alex Hauptert each scored 14 points in the win. The Norse will be in action again on Friday against Lakeland Christian Academy with tip-off set for 6 p.m.

Pirates sanitize LECOM Park as proactive measure vs. virus

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP) — The Pittsburgh Pirates have given their spring training home a deep clean as a proactive measure after a man in Manatee County tested positive for coronavirus.

Pirates spokesman Brian Warecki said workers sanitized the clubhouse, press box, concession stands and other areas of LECOM Park in an "overabundance of caution." LECOM Park is located in downtown Bradenton, which is in the middle of Manatee County.

The cleaning was done on Tuesday, a scheduled day off for the Pirates.

"We will continue to actively consider other efforts that we can implement to help maintain a healthy environment for our fans, players and staff," Warecki said.

Isles' Boychuk gets 90 stitches after taking skate to face

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Islanders defenseman Johnny Boychuk needed 90 stitches to his eyelid after being hit in the face with a skate but suffered no damage to his eye, president and general manager Lou Lamoriello said Wednesday.

Boychuk was cut Tuesday night when he was hit by Artturi Lehkonen's skate as the Montreal Canadiens left wing fell forward.

"Johnny Boychuk is OK. There's been no damage to his eye," Lamoriello told reporters. "He felt the skate blade get his eye, but fortunately, it just got the eyelid.

It took 90 stitches to fix; a plastic surgeon took care of it. I don't want to exaggerate with the stitches because they do very small stitches, but there were 90 of them."

Both players were in front of the Islanders' net during the third period when Lehkonen fell, causing his legs to go into the air and his right skate to connect with Boychuk under the visor. Boychuk was down on the ice briefly before he got up and skated off the ice with his hand covering his face.

Submit your news

The *Plain Dealer* is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants. Reports must be received by 3 p.m. to make it in the following day's edition. Items may be:

■ Emailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

■ Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.

■ Mailed into *Plain Dealer*, 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Organizations or individuals emailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The *Plain Dealer* reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.



Wabash's Trenton Daughtry drives baseline during the first half of the Apaches' sectional game against Bluffton on Tuesday.

Sterling fourth quarter sends Apaches to sectional semis

Daughtry scores 26, carries Apaches to win

By JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

NORTH MANCHESTER — On a night where Trenton Daughtry had carried the Apache offense for the near entirety of the opening three quarters in the sectional opener against Bluffton, Paul Wright's message to his side was simple.

Keep shooting. Pleased with the open looks being created, Wright and his staff knew, eventual-

ly, the shots would fall. And, eventually, he was right.

After entering the fourth quarter down 34-33, Wabash won the final frame 20-10 in a rematch from the regular season with the Tigers, 53-44.

"We knew this game was going to be a tough one," Wright said. "They're 15-7 for a reason. We did not expect a game like we played a month ago. That score was very deceiving. So, we said to keep doing what we're doing. We were encouraging them to keep shooting. We didn't shoot the ball very well tonight but the

shots we were shooting were good shots and in the fourth quarter, they finally went in for us."

Daughtry did everything for Wabash in the first half, accounting for 14 of the 17 Wabash points in the opening two quarters and 17 of the first 25 midway through the third period. Jasper Walter scored all 11 of his points in the third period to finally offer some help for Daughtry but Bluffton matched the Apaches shot for shot and a Dominic McPherson three-pointer at the buzzer sent the Tigers into the fourth quarter up a

point.

But the veteran Apaches never panicked and Daughtry's three-pointer to open the fourth period was followed by a corner three-pointer from Jared Holley inside the opening minute to force an early timeout.

Out of the break, Holley buried another triple as the lead quickly grew to 42-34. But Bluffton, who didn't score until the 4:42 mark of the fourth, never let the game get away. Eventually, back-to-back layups from

See APACHES, page B2

Fourth quarter comeback falls short for Squires

By JACOB RUDE
sports@wabashplaindealer.com

NORTH MANCHESTER — Multiple times on Tuesday night, the Squire boys' basketball team looked dead in the water, perhaps none more so than after falling behind by 10 points early in the fourth quarter against Fort Wayne Canterbury in the sectional opener.

But each time, instead of folding, Manchester fought back with no comeback more impressive than the last one as Manchester's 10-0 run in the final frame tied the game at 50-50 with five minutes left.

But the Squires could never quite pull past the Cavaliers and Canterbury executed down the stretch to hold off the Squires for a 58-56 win.

"I was just really proud of the kids the whole game (with) the way we fought back," Manchester head coach Mark Underwood said. "I thought we got a really good game from Canterbury. You have to give them a lot of credit. They were a load to handle defensively. But I like the way my guys never gave up. I thought we came out and played a super first quarter. But they found their stride there in the second quarter. I think they got up on us by 14 points and the guys could have folded the tent at that point but we

battled back and got to within six at halftime.

"Again they made a run and got a lead in the third quarter and the guys, again, could have just said 'Ok, that's it. Let's pack it in.' But they didn't."

On three different occasions on Tuesday, Canterbury built large leads only to see the Squires come roaring back. The last example of that came in the fourth quarter when the Squires ripped off 10 unanswered points to tie the game at 50-50 after a Weston Hamby layup three minutes into the frame.

Noah Drapala and Hamby would trade scores to keep the game tied at 52-52 before Holiday Stephenson, who missed the meeting between the two sides in the regular season that saw Manchester win 68-59, converted on back-to-back possessions to push the Cavaliers ahead 56-52.

Caleb Stout would convert a fastbreak layup after a scramble for a loose ball with 1:16 left to pull Manchester back within two but Jack Royster answered with two free throws to restore the two-possession lead.

Manchester's ensuing offensive possession would come up empty and the Cavaliers would corral the rebound. Inexplicably, though,



Manchester's Weston Hamby brings the ball upcourt during the second half of Tuesday's sectional match-up with Canterbury.

See SQUIRES, page B2

Hunter Jr. helps Purdue beat No. 18 Iowa 77-68

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — Purdue handed No. 18 Iowa its worst loss of the season last month. The Boilermakers used the same plan again in beating the Hawkeyes, 77-68, on Tuesday night.

Their offense wasn't as powerful, but their defense made the biggest impact.

Purdue (16-14, 9-10 Big Ten) used a physical defense that was focused on Iowa's Luka Garza, Joe Wieskamp and CJ Fredrick, the Hawkeyes' top three scorers.

Garza, the Big Ten's leading scorer, had 26 points and 12 rebounds, but Wieskamp was held to 10 points and Fredrick had just eight.

That was similar to the first meeting between the two teams, when Purdue defeated Iowa, 104-68. Garza had 26 points and no other Hawkeye scored in double figures.

The Hawkeyes shot just 37.5 percent from the field, 31 percent in the first half, in this game.

"When you give that much attention to those guys, some guys are going to be open," Purdue coach Matt Painter said. "If they make some open shots, we're going to have to change some things."

Wieskamp said the Boilermakers were "strong dudes." "You could tell tonight they really keyed in on Luka, CJ and I," Wieskamp said. "There weren't a lot of opportunities for us tonight."

"They're really big and they're really deep," Iowa coach Fran McCaffery said of Purdue's defense. "They're very athletic."

Garza had his 15th double-double of the season. It was the 15th consecutive Big Ten game of 20 or more points for Garza, the longest streak by a player in the conference in 20 years.

"He's a good player," Painter said. "Think of all the attention we gave him and he gets 26 and 12.

"We just wanted to make it hard for Wieskamp. Just make it difficult — stick with him. Garza's such a tough cover. Garza's going to score some points. Stay with (Wieskamp) and Fredrick and make it difficult on those guys."

Eric Hunter Jr., scored a career-high 19 points, and Evan Boudreaux had 14 points and 14 rebounds to lead the Boilermakers.

Purdue had a season-high 19 3-pointers and shot 63.1 percent from the field in the first game.

This game was won on the inside, with Purdue scoring 30 points in the paint. The Boilermakers also had an 47-33 edge in rebounding, including 21 offensive rebounds.

"They pounded us on the glass," Garza said.

"When you give up 21 offensive rebounds, we're going to get beat," McCaffery said. "It's that simple."

Purdue led by as many as 21 points in the first half.

"I don't think the effort was there," Garza said. "We had a couple of times (in the second half) where we fought back, but we didn't fight back to the best of our abilities. We could have made a couple of more runs at it.

Jahaad Proctor added 12 points for Purdue.

Iowa (20-10, 11-8) had its 13-game home winning streak snapped, becoming the last Big Ten team to lose at home this season.

UP NEXT:

Purdue: The Boilermakers host Rutgers on Saturday.

Iowa: The Hawkeyes close the regular season at Illinois on Sunday.

Aces up: Strasburg, Scherzer help younger pitchers

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Stephen Strasburg chatted by his locker early in spring training with Wil Crowe — just a World Series MVP and a non-roster invitee for the Washington Nationals plopping themselves on a pair of folding chairs to talk shop during camp’s ample idle time.

Strasburg discussed “little pointers and some cues” about throwing out of the stretch, Crowe said, before an unexpected offer arrived.

“He said to meet him outside the next morning at 8, on the mound,” said Crowe, a 2017 second-round draft pick from the University of South Carolina who split 2019 between Double-A Harrisburg and Triple-A Fresno. “It was just me and him; no coaches, no staff. He watched me do my movements and try to take what he does and blend it into what I do.”

Fans know what Strasburg and three-time Cy Young Award winner Max Scherzer can do when they’re on a mound for the Nationals, whose exhibition schedule resumes Thursday against St. Louis after Wednesday’s day off. Their bona fides make that obvious. Less so is what that pair, Patrick Corbin and Aníbal Sánchez — the starters who form what Washington manager Dave Martinez jokingly calls the “Four Amigos” — do behind the scenes to teach less-experienced pitchers in the organization.

“It’s just a part of being a good teammate and caring about the guy next to you. As you get older, all the players around you seem to get younger and younger. You just kind of have to make yourself available. It’s important for the young guys to want to speak up and ask questions, because once they realize that we’re very approachable — I think we all are — they’ll see you can learn

“He’s up at 6 in the morning to come down here and talk to 50 minor league pitchers that are trying to take his job. ... If you’re a pitcher with any kind of sense at all, why wouldn’t you just try to mirror what these great pitchers do?”

MIKE RIZZO
General Manager, Washington Nationals

from anybody,” said Strasburg, who is 31 as he enters the first season under a \$245 million, seven-year contract.

“I can learn something from a Wil Crowe, purely because his path to this point could be completely different from what I had to go through. You can get helpful feedback from anybody in this clubhouse,” Strasburg said. “That doesn’t necessarily mean they should listen to everything we have to tell them — or that we can’t listen to things they’ve picked up along the way.”

Martinez and his pitching coach, Paul Menhart, refer to Strasburg, et al., as assistant coaches.

facility when their spring training starts, which he’s done the last three years, and teaches them ‘Pitching 101’ and what he does and how he prepares and that type of thing, that’s invaluable,” Nationals GM Mike Rizzo said.

“He’s up at 6 in the morning to come down here and talk to 50 minor league pitchers that are trying to take his job. ... If you’re a pitcher with any kind of sense at all, why wouldn’t you just try to mirror what these great pitchers do? If just one thing wears off from Stras or Max or Patrick or Sánchez, you’ve gained a lot.”

Austin Voth, competing to be Washington’s No. 5 starter, said Scherzer is “always trying to get me to pitch from the ball of my foot,” for example. Voth said Strasburg showed him how he holds the baseball for a changeup.

Another righty trying to earn that final rotation spot, Joe Ross, said Strasburg gave insight into how he finishes his curveball. Ross

spoke to Sánchez about his butterfly changeup. Scherzer, Ross said, explained “the mentality of kind of attacking hitters and setting up pitches and things like that, when you can miss and where you can miss.”

“There might be things you don’t even really think about, but their point of view can rub off,” Ross said, “and then you take it into a game and it might immediately affect your stuff or how you do.”

The morning Strasburg worked with the 25-year-old Crowe — on positioning of legs and feet, mainly — Sánchez was at a mound nearby, tutoring another non-roster invitee.

“Every one of them is willing to help,” Crowe said. “I was just trying to pick (Strasburg’s) brain and get as much knowledge as I can from him, because he’s been there, done that. I want to be the best pitcher I can be, and I know he’s got a lot of knowledge.”

Daytona International Speedway tweaks Speedweeks, moves Clash onto road course

By **MARK LONG**
Associated Press

NASCAR will hit the road for its first race in 2021, part of a schedule shakeup that starts at Daytona International Speedway.

The track announced several changes to the start of the annual racing season Wednesday. They include running the exhibition Busch Clash on the 3.56-mile road course that winds through the Daytona infield and packing seven races as well as Daytona 500 pole qualifying into a six-day span.

The tweaks eliminate two traditional “dark days” at the track during Speedweeks and should provide a better fan experience leading into NASCAR’s premier event, the Daytona 500.

“This has been in the works with NASCAR for a while,” track President Chip Wile told The Associated Press. “We really want to continue to evolve. Obviously, there’s a ton of fan interest around road-course racing. We’ve had a road course here since 1959 and we feel like what better way to showcase the property and differentiate that race even more from

the Daytona 500 than running the road course under the lights?”

NASCAR teams have pushed for a shorter season for years, arguing that the 12-week offseason is too short given how little downtime there is during the racing calendar.

The sanctioning body is expected to make significant changes to its 2021 schedule, which could include more short tracks, mid-week races and double-headers. Overhauling Speedweeks is the first of what’s expected to be many new looks ahead.

The week will shape up like this: the Clash will run Tuesday night, Feb. 9, followed the next day by Daytona 500 pole qualifying that sets the front row for “The Great American Race.” Qualifying races that set the rest of the field, called the “Duels,” will remain a Thursday staple and be run under the lights for the eighth consecutive year.

The Trucks Series season opener will run Friday night, as usual, with the ARCA and second-tier Xfinity Series openers running as a double-header Saturday.

Practices, qualifying runs and Daytona 500 media day will be sprinkled in throughout the week.

Pole qualifying, the Clash and the ARCA race typically run the weekend before the 500. But NASCAR is starting the Daytona 500 a week earlier than normal in 2021. It will run on Valentine’s Day, one week after the Super Bowl.

Since it was unlikely NASCAR would go head-to-head against the Super Bowl, it seemed like the obvious choice would be to cram Speedweeks into a single week.

“We’re not condensing the schedule,” Wile said. “We’re being more efficient. We’ll have the same numbers of track activities and track days. We’re just doing it consecutively instead of over two weekends.”

Traditionalists surely will gripe. After all, some welcomed the allure of spending two weeks in sunny Florida, where drivers often can be spotted at Disney World, the beach and other tourist spots.

“I’d miss it,” driver Austin Dillon said before the 500, anticipating changes. “I like being down here for this long. I enjoy this week. I think it’s a great start to our season.”

Wile believes starting the week on the road course could prompt more drivers to enter the Rolex 24 at Daytona, a twice-around-the-clock sports car race that kicks off the IMSA season. Reigning NASCAR champion Kyle Busch drove the race in January. Seven-time champion Jimmie Johnson, Clint Bowyer and Kyle Larson also have Rolex experience on the road course.

There are three road courses on the NASCAR Cup Series schedule: Sonoma Raceway in June, Watkins Glen International in August and Charlotte Motor Speedway in October. Drivers are accustomed to turning left, which makes road courses one of the most daunting challenges in NASCAR. Daytona should be no different.

“It is a very unique road course,” Wile said. “It’s fast and it’s technical. How much is it going to take to stop these 3,400-pound race cars going into Turn 1 after coming out of the Bus Stop and have half a lap to get up to speed? It’s going to be a really wild race.”

Oakley empathizes with Spike Lee over treatment at Madison Square Garden

By **DAN GELSTON**
Associated Press

Spike Lee bailed on his New York Knicks’ court-side seat for the rest of the season. Maybe he can commiserate with former Knicks enforcer Charles Oakley, anywhere but inside Madison Square Garden.

Lee had enough of being held by security in a dispute over his proper entrance to a Knicks game when he invoked the name of executive chairman James Dolan’s No. 1 nemesis and fellow Garden agitator.

“You want to arrest me like Charles Oakley?” Lee shouted at security Monday night.

The wild scene at MSG was enough to trigger Oakley, who had his spat in 2017 when he was arrested after an altercation with security officials. Watching Lee, the Oscar-winning writer-director, go through another dust-up had Oakley feeling as if he was in some sort of sequel to He Got Kicked Out of The Game.

“It’s got to be stopped in some kind of way,” Oakley told The Associated Press in a phone interview Tuesday night. “The NBA has got to take a look at this. You can’t keep closing your eyes to this. This is like, turn your head if you see someone beat somebody up and you just keep walking. It just keeps happening in New York. People are not going to come here because it’s the same thing over and over and over. They got a new president and all everyone is talking about what happened between Spike Lee and the Garden.”

The incident occurred on the first night on the job for Leon Rose, the longtime player agent who was hired Monday as team president.

“I know Leon. He’s a great guy,” Oakley said. “But hey, this is something probably (former President Barack) Obama can’t fix.”

Oakley’s lawsuit against Dolan and Madison Square Garden, stemming from his ejection from a game and ensuing arrest three years ago, was dismissed last month.

MSG called for “peace between us” when a federal judge dismissed Oakley’s claim, though the rebounding machine said he will appeal.

“There should have been peace anyway,” Oakley said. “I played there 10 years. Show me some respect. They keep me disrespecting me. I feel sorry for the people who stuff keeps happening to. It’s just not

“This doesn’t damage Spike Lee, ... This does damage to the fans at the game. The fans who watch on TV. And of the NBA. To see one of the franchise owners keep acting like this, it’s just bad.”

CHARLES OAKLEY
Former New York Knicks player

right.”

Judge Richard J. Sullivan ruled last month in U.S. District Court in Manhattan that the case “had the feel of a public relations campaign” and Oakley hadn’t alleged a plausible legal claim under federal pleading standards.

Oakley had alleged assault, battery and false imprisonment, along with defamation after Dolan and the Knicks implied he had a problem with alcohol. Oakley was sitting near Dolan at a game on Feb. 8, 2017. He was approached by security soon after arriving and began to scuffle with them before he was removed from his seat and arrested.

“I didn’t do nothing,” Oakley said. “I got drug out and talked about like I was a person laying in the street.”

The Knicks’ latest case happened Monday night when a video circulated online during New York’s 125-123 victory over Houston showing Lee getting frustrated and yelling at Garden security outside an elevator, leading to confusion that he may have been thrown out of the building. However, a Knicks spokesman said that was untrue and that it was simply an issue of Lee using the wrong entrance.

Lee said he has been using the employee entrance on 33rd Street for more than two decades as a season ticket holder. The Knicks wanted him to use the entrance for celebrities, which is two blocks away.

Lee told ESPN on Tuesday he wouldn’t be attending another Knicks home game this season.

“This doesn’t damage Spike Lee,” Oakley said. “This does damage to the fans at the game. The fans who watch on TV. And of the NBA. To see one of the franchise owners keep acting like this, it’s just bad.”

The Knicks are 19-42 and headed toward their seventh straight season out of the playoffs.

“I ain’t ever seen a team lose make this much news,” Oakley said. “Maybe the Dallas Cowboys.”

NHL keeping a close eye on virus, limiting employee work-related travel

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
Associated Press

BOCA RATON, Fla. — The NHL is not allowing its employees to make work-related trips outside of North America in response to the global fears over the coronavirus, and if any of those employees go on their own to a country where the virus has been found they will be quarantined before being able to return to work.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said Wednesday the league has told its 31 teams they were free to adopt a similar policy, though he stopped short of saying it would be a mandate as concerns of the virus continue to grow.

“We barred all travel outside of North America for business purposes,” Bettman said on the final day of general managers’ meetings. “People at a personal level or people in their households are still free to do what they want to do. If you go to a place that’s on the list of countries that have an issue or while you’re there the country comes on the list, then when you come back we want you quarantined, out of the office for two weeks until we can see if symptoms develop.”

That even applies to those who work for the NHL’s central scouting service: Scouts who are in Europe are staying in Europe, and if they return to North America they will be quarantined.

Bettman said the NHL is in regular communication with the other three major North American sports leagues, as well as health experts in both the U.S. and Canada.

Through Wednesday, there have been more than 94,000 confirmed cases of people contracting the virus worldwide, with more than 3,200 deaths.

“We’re constantly updating the clubs based on what we’re hearing from our experts and the CDC and Canada’s equivalent,” Bettman said. “It’s day by day. We’re going to continue to monitor things. It’s business as usual. We’re going to keep everybody completely informed.”

The NHL hasn’t gone as far as the NBA did earlier this week. The NBA sent a memo to teams on Sunday suggesting that players limit high-fives with fans and be hesitant to touch markers and items in autograph-seeking situations. Some NBA players have said they are stopping autographs altogether for the time being, and others are carrying their own markers to group-signing scrums.

“When it comes to that level of detail, leagues will do what they think are appropriate and necessary under the circumstances,” Bettman said. “Our clubs at the medical level, the training level and the player level are pretty informed as to what is wise and prudent conduct

under the circumstances.”

The International Ice Hockey Federation said this week it has canceled six different tournaments — events that were to take place in March and April in Estonia, Bulgaria, Turkey, Luxembourg, Poland and Spain. Pro leagues in Switzerland and China have also been affected, some games called off, others played without fans.

The NHL isn’t at that point yet with the playoffs coming up next month.

“We’re aware of and focused on all possibilities,” Bettman said. “But at this point it would be premature to pick any one of the possibilities, especially because it may or may not become necessary in North America.”

David Ayres

Bettman said he found it “intriguing” when David Ayres, a 42-year-old Zamboni driver, took the ice as the emergency backup goaltender for the Carolina Hurricanes when they faced the Toronto Maple Leafs last month.

Ayres shook off a shaky start, allowing goals on his first two shots, and became the first emergency goalie in NHL history to be credited with a victory.

“What was, to me, more remarkable was how he settled down and how Carolina played the third period. ... For those of you old enough to remember, it was a real

Walter Mitty moment,” Bettman said.

Salary cap

The NHL shared its salary cap projection for the 2020-21 season with general managers Wednesday.

“We told the managers we expect the cap for next year would be somewhere between \$84 and \$88.2 million,” deputy commissioner Bill Daly said. “That depends on the results of our negotiations with the players’ association with respect to what inflator, if any, we apply to the numbers in the formula.”

Daly said the NHL and the NHL Players’ Association have re-engaged in talks over the last couple of weeks.

“The process has restarted,” Daly said. “It would be too early for me to say if we’re making progress or not making progress.”

Puck and player tracking

Bettman insisted that the new puck to be used in the NHL’s new player and puck tracking plans is not going to change the way the game is played, and that the puck will perform exactly as the current puck does.

“The puck has been extensively tested, it’s been extensively used and anybody suggesting that somehow that could be an issue, it’s pure speculation, misguided speculation,” Bettman said.

Best friend can't suppress his crush on gay woman

DEAR ABBY: I am a gay woman. My male best friend has had a crush on me for more than a year. It is so intense that he is almost delusional. We have talked extensively about it. He knows where I stand and that it will never happen, and he says he accepts that. But he can't stand the thought of me spending time with a woman, even if it's just a friend. He wants all of my time and doesn't want to share me, even with mutual friends.

Dear Abby



Here's the kicker: I had invited him to move back to my college town with me. We both thought that moving to a big city would open up more dating opportunities for us and help him get over me. It was an ordeal for him, but he put in a ton of work to be able to move. We planned to be housemates. This happened during a time when we thought he was feeling more resolved about our relationship.

We have been staying with my relative while we search for a house in the big city, so we are trapped in the same space, and he has nowhere else to go. Since moving in together, his feelings for me have resurged. I no longer want to be roommates because of his possessiveness. But it would devastate him if I left him alone here, especially since it was my idea to go, and I was meant to be his support system. I feel like I am trapped in his drama and cannot live my life without ruining his. Please help! — Trapped Lesbian In The West

DEAR TRAPPED LESBIAN: Do not rent an apartment with him or buy a house! To do so would be an expensive mistake. You cannot fulfill his needs. If you allow this to continue, he will destroy every opportunity that comes your way because it will be a threat to his fantasy.

He needs to find other living arrangements NOW, and you and your relative should insist upon it. This is not going to have a fairy-tale ending, and you probably will not remain friends as you move along with your life. But move along is what you must do, for both your sakes.

DEAR ABBY: I went out of town on a business trip with two co-workers (both females), and the trip was a success. We got along great and accomplished all of the goals we set for ourselves during our stay.

During the few outings we had off company time, however, there were moments when we all wanted to link up and do everything together but our stomachs disagreed. If I wanted to go to breakfast at 8 a.m., someone would want to go at 11 a.m., or another co-worker wouldn't want to go at all. Another example is, we would plan dinners (after touring the city all day) at a certain time, but it was so late my stomach would growl loudly.

I understand that flexibility is key, but my metabolism works overtime compared to theirs. How do I go about venturing off on my own for food without coming across as rude or looking like I'm not a team player? — Hungry Man In New York

DEAR HUNGRY MAN: Explain it to your co-workers as you have to me. If your body is signaling that you must eat something NOW, you need to do it — if only enough to take the edge off your hunger. To do that isn't rude. Taking care of yourself is important, and it doesn't mean you aren't a team player. Perhaps you should carry something with you to tide you over from meal to meal.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Range
- 6 Zero-shaped
- 10 Most pristine
- 12 Squeezed
- 14 Maria Conchita
- 15 Writer with acid tango
- 16 Did the
- 18 Uh cousins
- 19 Toiling away
- 21 Bone dry
- 23 Watch chain
- 24 Elton John's title
- 26 Type of luck
- 29 Way back when
- 30 Once named
- 32 Boxing match
- 34 Campus area, briefly
- 36 Fast food chain
- 37 Prefix for cycle
- 38 Wild guess

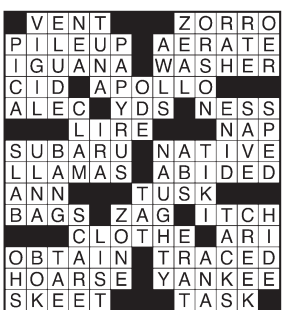
40 Judge

- Bean
- 42 Muser's mumbbling
- 43 Part of a pump
- 45 Famed lioness
- 47 Climber's challenge
- 50 Proper
- 52 Most demure
- 54 Niche
- 58 Viennese desserts
- 59 Era
- 60 Honey wine
- 61 Flirt

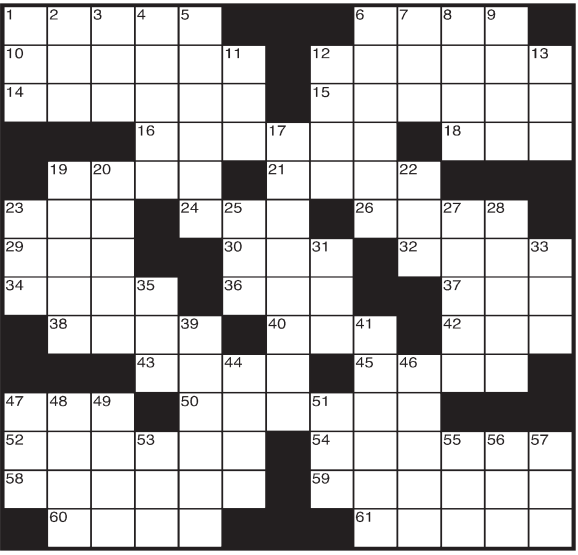
DOWN

- 1 Health resort
- 2 —de-sac
- 3 Gold, in Peru
- 4 Remains on hold
- 5 Compositions
- 6 Surpassed
- 7 London's Old
- 8 Hurt
- 9 Unpleasant look

Answer to Previous Puzzle

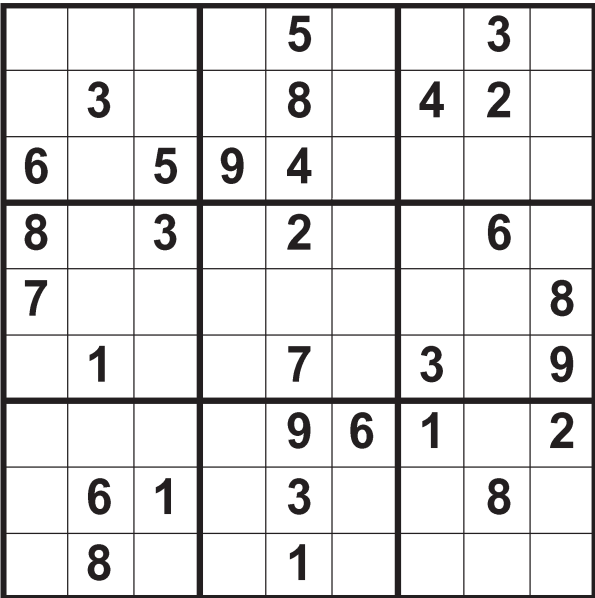


- 112,000 pounds
- 12 Catcall
- 13 JAMA readers
- 17 Happy-go-lucky or fake
- 19 Counterfeit
- 20 WWII craft (hyph.)
- 22 Add to a soundtrack
- 23 Online info
- 25 Pen fluid
- 27 Night-flying insects
- 28 Myanmar, once
- 31 "The Name of the Rose" author
- 33 Tiny
- 35 Court figures, briefly
- 39 Ordered around
- 41 Raised one's voice
- 44 Authorizes
- 46 Spandex fiber
- 47 Play part
- 48 Tower over
- 49 Fiery heap
- 51 Explorer's sketch
- 53 Plato's H
- 55 Van Gogh medium
- 56 Library abbr.
- 57 Ben & Jerry rival



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆



3/5

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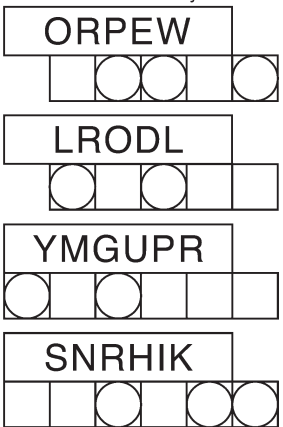
How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

7	8	3	4	2	9	6	1	5
2	5	4	7	1	6	9	3	8
6	1	9	5	3	8	2	4	7
3	4	6	1	7	2	5	8	9
9	7	1	6	8	5	3	2	4
8	2	5	9	4	3	7	6	1
5	3	8	2	9	4	1	7	6
4	6	7	3	5	1	8	9	2
1	9	2	8	6	7	4	5	3

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



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Answer here:

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



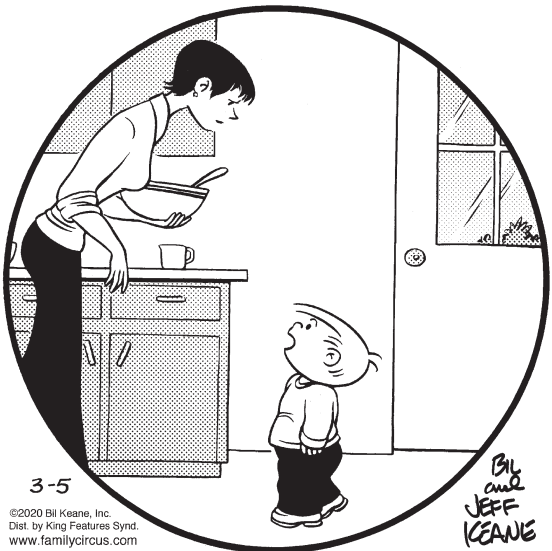
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GEESE ENTRY HERBAL OUTLET
Answer: Anacondas feel at home in tropical South America because they — BELONG THERE

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

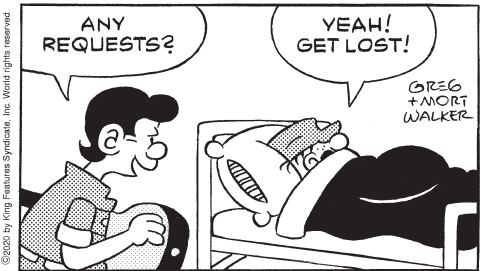
By Bil Keane



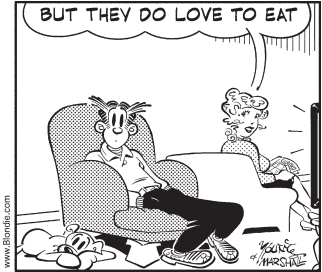
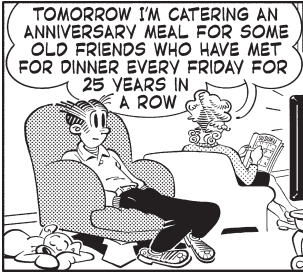
“Mommy, did you used to be sexy?”

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BEETLE BAILEY



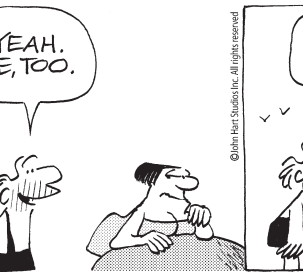
BLONDIE



HI & LOIS



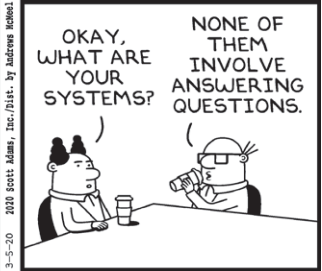
BC



WIZARD OF ID



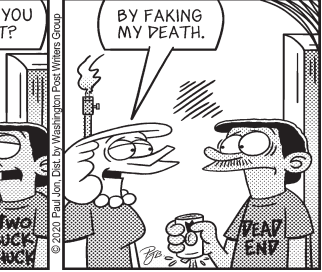
DILBERT



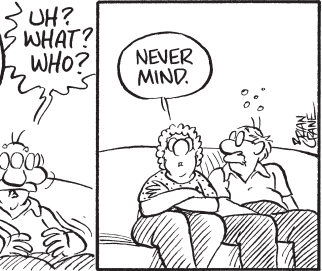
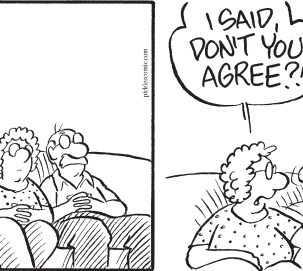
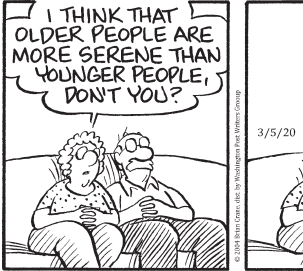
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



PICKLES



God's love for the sinner

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Q: Is there any hope for those who have committed heinous crimes to ever know the peace of God? — W.C.

A: In our own weakness as humans, we tend to grade sins. Here's a little sin on our scale, but over here there's a very, very heavy sin. We may see God as able to forgive the small sin, but incapable of forgiving the gross sinner.

A story out of World War II illustrates this graphically. Hitler and his Third Reich had gone down to defeat at the hands of the Allies. Many Nazi leaders who committed some of the most infamous crimes known to man were brought to trial in Nuremberg. The world watched as sentences of imprisonment and death were brought against

these war criminals. However, an amazing account was given by Chaplain Gerecke. He had been called as a prison chaplain to the former Nazi high command, though his self-description was that of a humble preacher who had grown up a Missouri farm boy.

Chaplain Gerecke recalled the sincere conversion to faith in Jesus Christ by some of these men who had committed despicable crimes; one of them a former favorite general of Hitler. At first the chaplain was very leery of confessions of faith. He said the first time

he saw this criminal reading his Bible he thought, a phony. However, as he spent time with him, he wrote, "But the longer I listened, the more I felt he might be sincere. He insisted he was very glad that a nation which would probably put him to death thought enough of his eternal welfare to provide him with spiritual guidance."

With Bible in hand he said, "I know from this book that God can love a sinner like me." There is always hope. What an amazing love God exhibited for us all at the cross!

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“ ZH FJLER BEXR, YG IZGH ER MEM
AZIKE ZAF ETFA, ZRI K ORED LXZL
ZRI K ZWWFML KL ZRI K'Y REL
CRXZMMG ZSECL KL.” — FJLER BEXR

Previous Solution: "I am a very positive thinker, and I think that is what helps me the most in difficult moments." — Roger Federer

TODAY'S CLUE: M s p n b o q

Netanyahu still short of majority after election

By TIA GOLDENBERG
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has fallen short of capturing the majority needed to form a government, near-final election results showed Wednesday, deepening a year of political deadlock and appearing to dash the long-serving leader’s hopes for a decisive victory as his trial on corruption charges nears.

In an angry tirade, Netanyahu conceded that he did not have the parliamentary support to form a new government right away. But he still tried to claim victory as he lashed out at his main opponent and disparaged the leading Arab party — the third largest in parliament — as irrelevant.

“This is what the nation decided,” he said. “The public gave me more votes than any other candidate for prime minister in the nation’s history.”

After failing to form a government following two general elections last year and with his legal woes closing in, Netanyahu had been hoping for a clear win in Monday’s vote. With initial exit polls predicting a near majority for Netanyahu and his nationalist-religious allies, he declared a “great victory” to thousands of jubilant supporters under a torrent of confetti on election night.

But Wednesday’s near-final tally painted a different picture. With over 99 percent of the votes counted, Netanyahu’s Likud led the way with 36 seats, ahead of challenger Benny Gantz’s Blue and White party, with 33 seats. Yet with his allies, Netanya-

hu’s right-wing camp held a total of only 58 seats, three shy of the 61 needed to form a government and no clear path to reaching the threshold. Final results are expected later Wednesday.

In a stunning rebuke to Netanyahu, the Joint List, an umbrella group of Arab-led parties, finished third with 15 seats. It was an all-time high for the Joint List, boosted by voters furious at what was perceived as racist incitement by Netanyahu throughout the campaign against the country’s Arab minority.

“Our public feels its power and it wants to exert that power,” Joint List leader Ayman Odeh told Israeli Channel 13 TV. “We said no to Benjamin Netanyahu’s approach.”

In a meeting with his political allies Wednesday, Netanyahu continued to portray himself as a winner, despite the likely impasse he faces.

“The Likud under my leadership became the largest party in a knockout,” he said. “The public’s decision must be respected.”

He did not respond to a reporter’s question about lacking a parliamentary majority. But he again lashed out at the Joint List, saying it should not even be considered in the calculations for forming a new government.

The Joint List “isn’t even part of the equation,” he said, claiming its members are hostile to the state.

While the Arab parties have never sat in an Israeli coalition, they have worked to support policies from the outside, a step they could take again if they can resolve their differences with Gantz.

Gantz also has ruled out a partnership with the Joint List, making it unlikely he

can cobble together a coalition either. That means Israel appears headed for deadlock, extending nearly a year of political paralysis.

Netanyahu had been desperate for a strong showing ahead of his trial, which is scheduled to start March 17. Installing a new government would give him an important political boost and potentially allow him to legislate his way out of the legal quagmire.

“There isn’t another politician in the world who could have won the largest number of votes after having failed twice to form a government and after having been indicted on three charges,” political commentator Ari Shavit wrote on the Makor Rishon news site. “Nevertheless, Netanyahu and his partners ought to bear in mind that their goal of 61 seats has not been achieved yet. Their hope for a decisive victory was dashed.”

Netanyahu was indicted last year on fraud, bribery and breach of trust charges in three separate corruption cases. He denies wrongdoing, saying the charges have been trumped up by a liberal media and a justice system looking to oust him. As prime minister, Netanyahu can not only use his position as a bully pulpit to rally public support but he and his allies also can try to craft legislation to delay or derail prosecution.

Under Israeli law, a sitting prime minister is not required to resign if indicted. But the law is fuzzy about whether a candidate for prime minister under indictment can be given authority to form a new government, and the country’s Supreme Court is expected to weigh in on the matter.

Israel’s president will soon begin consultations with the elected parties, which then recommend to him their preferred selection to lead the government. Typically, the candidate with the most recommendations is asked to try to form a government. As leader of the largest party, that is likely to be Netanyahu, even if as in the previous two elections his path is unclear.

In a bid to break the deadlock, Likud and its allies have been trying to find ways to bridge the gap. They have talked about luring “defectors” from opposition parties who could tick the right-wing bloc’s numbers up. But so far, no one has come forward, and a number of rumored defectors have issued statements denying the speculation.

Blue and White meanwhile said it would consider promoting legislation that would prevent an indicted prime minister from forming a government. But passing such legislation, particularly in the two weeks before the president taps a candidate to form a government, appeared unlikely, especially following an opinion against the idea by the Knesset’s legal adviser.

The most straightforward way out of the deadlock would be a power-sharing deal between Gantz and Netanyahu, whose parties together control a parliamentary majority. But Gantz has ruled out a partnership as long as Netanyahu heads Likud.

Netanyahu, on the other hand, insists on being prime minister of any unity government.

If neither candidate can form a government within the allotted time, Israel could face an unprecedented fourth straight election.

Clashes erupt on Greece-Turkey border as migrants seek entry

By COSTAS KANTOURIS and SUZAN FRASER
Associated Press

KASTANIES, Greece — Greek authorities fired tear gas and stun grenades to drive away a crowd of migrants making a push to cross the border from Turkey on Wednesday, as pressure on Greece continued after Turkey declared its previously guarded gateways to Europe open.

Turkish authorities said gunfire from the Greek side killed one person and wounded five others — an assertion the Greek government rejected as “fake news.”

The clashes were near the border village of Kastanies, along a border fence that covers much of the frontier not demarcated by the Evros river.

Turkey made good on a threat to open its borders and allow migrants and refugees to head for Europe last week. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan’s action triggered days of violent clashes at the Greece-Turkey land border.

Thousands of migrants and refugees have gathered at the frontier, and hundreds more have headed for the Greek islands from the Turkish coast.

The office of Ekrem Canalt, governor for the Turkish border province of Edirne, said one migrant was killed and five others wounded after Greek police and border units fired tear gas, blank rounds and live ammunition at migrants gathered between the Turkish and Greek border crossings of Pazarkule and Kastanies.

Greek government spokesman Stelios Petsas categorically denied any migrants had been wounded or killed by Greek authorities.

“The Turkish side creates and disperses fake news targeted against Greece. Today they created yet another such falsehood,” he said. “There is no such incident with fire from the Greek authorities,” he said.

Greek authorities said Turkish police were firing tear gas at Greek authorities, and supplied video they said backed their assertion.

During the clashes earlier Wednesday, reporters on the Greek side of the border heard what sounded like gunfire, though it was unclear whether this was live ammunition. A group of people could be seen carrying something which could have been a person between them, and running to the Turkish border post. Shortly afterward, and ambulance was heard leaving.

Reporters on the Turkish side saw at least four ambulances leave the area.

The head of emergency services at Edirne’s Trakya University Hospital, Burak Sayhan, told journalists six people had been admitted to the emergency department Wednesday, including one who was dead on arrival. He said one person had been shot in the head, two had gunshot wounds to their lower and upper extremities and one had a broken nose.

Greece has also come under migration pressure from the sea. Greek islands that are relatively short distance from Turkey by water are seeing even more new arrivals. A child died when the dinghy he was in capsized off the coast of the Greek island of Lesbos earlier this week.

Gale-force winds and rough seas hampered sea crossings Wednesday.

Greece sent a navy ship to Lesbos to house more than 400 of the new arrivals. Tension has mounted with some local residents on the island, where the main migrant camp is massively overcrowded.

The government has called the situation a direct threat to Greece’s national security and has imposed emergency measures to carry out swift deportations and freeze asylum applications for one month. Mi-

grants have been reporting being summarily pushed back across the border into Turkey.

The mass movement to Greece’s borders of migrants and refugees, the majority of who appeared to be from Afghanistan, has appeared organized. Buses, minibuses, cars and taxis were provided in Istanbul to ferry people to the border, while some of those who managed to cross have said they were told by Turkish authorities to go to Greece.

Turkey’s announcement that its border to Europe was open came amid a Russia-backed Syrian government offensive into Syria’s northwestern Idlib province, where Turkish troops are fighting.

The offensive has killed dozens of Turkish troops and sent nearly a million Syrian civilians toward Turkey’s sealed border. However, Oleg Zhuravlev, head of the Russian military’s coordination center in Syria, said Tuesday claims about a humanitarian crisis in Idlib were false.

European Union interior ministers held emergency talks to show solidarity with Greece and to drum up more equipment to bolster the 27-country bloc’s outside border with Turkey. Other officials accused Turkey of “blackmail” for waving migrants through.

The European Commission has praised Greece as “the shield” on Europe’s external borders. Commission Vice-President Margaritis Schinas said “there are 20,000 people that have been instrumentalized by buses to be sent, creating an unprecedented situation.”

French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, speaking Wednesday at the French Senate, said the “migratory pressure is at Europe’s door, ... That migratory pressure is being organized by President Erdogan’s regime to blackmail the European Union. The EU won’t give in to blackmail.”

Turkey, for its part, accused Greece of mistreating refugees.

Erdogan on Wednesday called on Greece and other European nations to respect migrants’ rights. He screened a photograph depicting Greeks who reportedly found refuge in Syria in 1942, saying: “Greeks who try all kinds of methods to keep refugees away from their countries — from drowning them at sea to shooting at them with bullets — should not forget that they may need to be shown the same mercy some day.”

He also accused EU countries of hypocritical behavior, saying they had rushed to Greece’s help “with money, boats and soldiers” to prevent a new influx of migrants but ignored Turkey’s plight concerning 3.7 millions Syrian refugees on its territory.

Meanwhile, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia pledged to help Greece to deal with pressure along its border. The four countries have been known for their tough stance against migrants and rejected an EU plan to redistribute refugees in member states.

European Council head Charles Michel was meeting with Erdogan in Ankara Wednesday, while EU Vice President Josep Borrell and Commissioner for Crisis Management Janez Lenarčič were holding talks with Turkish Vice President Fuat Oktay.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with Erdogan, Borrell said that the EU delegation asked Turkey “not to encourage the further movement of refugees and migrants toward the EU borders.”

“We had the opportunity to express our understanding of the difficult situation Turkey is currently facing but also stressed that the current developments at the European borders is not leading to any solution,” he said.

Anti-virus measures take drastic turns in Saudi, Iran, Italy

By MATT SEDENSKY and LORI HINNANT
Associated Press

BANGKOK — Saudi Arabia banned citizens from performing the Muslim pilgrimage in Mecca, Italy ordered schools to close nationwide and Iran canceled Friday prayers for a second week as nations scrambled Wednesday to control the coronavirus outbreak.

From religion to sports, countries were taking drastic and increasingly visible measures to curb the new coronavirus that first emerged in China and was spreading quickly through Europe, the Mideast and the Americas.

In the United States, frustration mounted over U.S. officials’ delays and missteps in testing people for the virus.

Deaths spiked in Iran and Italy, which along with South Korea account for 80 percent of the new virus cases outside China, according to the World Health Organization. In all, more than 94,000 people have contracted the virus worldwide, with more than 3,200 deaths.

“People are afraid and uncertain. Fear is a natural human response to any threat,” said WHO’s leader, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. “But as we get more data, we are understanding this virus and the disease it causes more and more.”

WHO said about 3.4 percent of people infected with the COVID-19 virus globally have died, making it more fatal than the common flu. The figure was a bit of a surprise, since a study last week in the New England Journal of Medicine assessing data from more than 30 Chinese provinces estimated the death rate was 1.4 percent.

Death rates in outbreaks are likely to skew higher early on as health officials focus on finding severe and fatal cases, missing most milder cases. WHO says the majority of people with the

new coronavirus experience only mild symptoms, but the risks rise with the age of the patient and for those with any underlying health conditions.

In Daegu, the South Korean city at the center of that country’s outbreak, a shortage of hospital space meant about 2,300 patients were being cared for in other facilities while they awaited a hospital bed. Attending a meeting on quarantine strategies in Daegu, Prime Minister Chung Se-Kyun sought to assure his country, saying “We can absolutely overcome this situation. ... We will win the war against COVID-19.”

South Korea reported 435 new infections Wednesday, far smaller than its high of 851 a day earlier. A total of 5,621 people in South Korea have contracted the virus and 32 have died.

Italy’s virus deaths rose to 107, the most of any country outside of China. Its outbreak has been concentrated in the northern region of Lombardy, but fears over how the virus is spreading inside and outside the country prompted the government to order all schools to close nationwide through March 15.

Iran reported 92 deaths among its 2,922 confirmed cases, although many fear the outbreak is far broader. Among the ill are members of the government, and the country cancelled Friday prayers for the second week in a row.

“The virus has no wings to fly,” noted Health Ministry spokesman Kianoush Jahanpour. “We are the ones who transfer it to each other.”

In Israel, religious practice also faced new disruption: The country’s chief rabbi urged observant Jews to refrain from kissing mezuza, small items encasing a prayer scroll posted by Jews on doorposts. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also urged people to adopt the Indian greeting of “na-

maste,” with hands together, rather than a handshake.

The virus has spread beyond clusters throughout Germany and France, prompting officials to tell soccer players to simply disperse — without shaking hands — after lining up. Referees and coaches will no longer shake hands either.

The U.N. health chief has warned sharply against hoarding medical supplies, saying they are needed to protect health care workers on the front line. Accordingly, the Czech Republic, Russia and Germany announced bans on exporting protective gear like masks. That followed a similar move by France, where major hospitals have seen their masks stolen by the boxful.

In the U.S., more than 120 cases have been reported. Nine people have died, all in and around Seattle, Washington. On Capitol Hill, lawmakers were expected to finalize an agreement Wednesday on a \$7.5 billion emergency bill to fund work on a virus vaccine and other measures.

India, meantime, tightened the export of 26 key drug ingredients used in pharmaceutical manufacturing, a potentially disruptive move taken as its caseload rose to 28 on Wednesday.

China reported 119 new cases Wednesday, all but five in the outbreak’s epicenter of Wuhan. In a sign of the shifting threat, Beijing’s health commissioner said two new cases in the Chinese capital were apparently infected abroad, in Iran and Italy.

The state-run Xinhua News Agency said Hubei province, where Wuhan is located, was expected to gradually shut down its hastily built temporary hospitals.

“We believe this decline is real,” WHO outbreak expert Maria Van Kerkhove said of China. The country has reported 80,270 infections and 2,981 deaths from the

